

THE GOLDEN RULE

Department of Agriculture

Semiannual Regulatory Agenda

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

7 CFR Subtitle A, Chs. I-VII, IX-XII, XIV-XVIII, XXI, XXIV-XXIX

9 CFR Chs. I-IV

36 CFR Ch. II

41 CFR Ch. 4

Semiannual Regulatory Agenda,
October 1999

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Semiannual regulatory agenda.

SUMMARY: This agenda provides summary descriptions of significant and not significant regulations being developed in agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in conformance with Executive Order 12866 "Regulatory Planning and

Review." The agenda also describes regulations affecting small entities as required by section 602 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, Public Law 96-354. This agenda also identifies regulatory actions that are being reviewed in compliance with section 610(c) of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. We invite public comment on those actions.

USDA has attempted to list all regulations and regulatory reviews pending at the time of publication except for minor and routine or repetitive actions, but some may have been inadvertently missed. There is no legal significance to the omission of an item from this listing. Also, the dates shown for the steps of each action are estimated and are not commitments to act on or by the date shown.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on any specific entry shown in this agenda, please

contact the person listed for that action. Requests for copies of the agenda should include a self-addressed, stamped envelope and be directed to: Regulatory Agenda, OBPA, Office of the Secretary, Room 118-E, Jamie Whitten Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250, (202) 720-1272.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For this edition of USDA's regulatory agenda, the most important significant regulatory actions are included in The Regulatory Plan, which appears in part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**. The Regulatory Plan entries are listed in the table of contents below and are denoted by a bracketed bold reference, which directs the reader to the appropriate sequence number in part II.

Dated : September 28, 1999.

Marvin J. Shapiro,

Chief, Legislative, Regulatory, and Automated Systems Division.

Agricultural Marketing Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
165	National Organic Program (Reg Plan Seq. No. 1)	0581-AA40
166	National Laboratory Accreditation Program	0581-AB42
167	Processed Fruits and Vegetables: Qualified Through Verification (QTV)	0581-AB58
168	General Specifications for Dairy Plants Approved for USDA Inspection and Grading	0581-AB59
169	Blueberry Research, Promotion, and Information Order	0581-AB61
170	Olive Oil Research, Promotion, and Information Order	0581-AB62
171	Fresh Fruits and Vegetables: Fee Increase	0581-AB63
172	Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999	0581-AB64

References in boldface appear in the Regulatory Plan in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Agricultural Marketing Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
173	Federal Seed Act; Amendments	0581-AB55
174	Voluntary Shell Egg Regulations; Repackaging of Shell Eggs Under USDA's Grading Program	0581-AB56
175	Refrigeration Requirements for Shell Eggs	0581-AB60

Agricultural Marketing Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
176	Kiwifruit Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Order	0581-AB46
177	Federal Milk Order Consolidation and Reform	0581-AB49
178	Cotton Classification Services to Growers; Revision of User Fees for 1999 Crop	0581-AB57

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Agricultural Research Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
179	National Agricultural Library Fees for Loans and Copying	0518-AA01

Farm Service Agency—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
180	Method of Calculation of Loan Deficiency Payment Rates	0560-AF87

Farm Service Agency—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
181	Part 1946 Mediation; Subpart A—Agricultural Loan Mediation Program	0560-AE26
182	Debt Settlement for Indian Tribal Land Acquisition Loans	0560-AF43
183	2000-Crop Peanuts National Poundage Quota, National Average Loan Rates for Quota and Additional Peanuts and Minimum Export-Edible Sales Price for Additional Peanuts	0560-AF83
184	2000-Crop Marketing Quotas and Price Support Levels for Five Kinds of Tobacco	0560-AF86
185	Debt Settlement of Farm Loan Program Loans	0560-AF88

Farm Service Agency—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
186	1999-Crop Marketing Quotas and Price Support Levels for Five Kinds of Tobacco	0560-AF51
187	Disaster Reserve Flood Compensation Program	0560-AF57
188	Suspension of Collection of Recapture Amount for Borrowers with Certain Shared Appreciation Agreements	0560-AF80
189	1999 Livestock Indemnity Program	0560-AF82
190	2000-Crop Marketing Quota and Price Support Level for Flue-Cured Tobacco	0560-AF84
191	2000-Crop Marketing Quota and Price Support Level for Burley Tobacco	0560-AF85
192	Amendment to the Farm Loan Program Regarding the Time Period for Requests for Debt Settlement	0560-AF89

Farm Service Agency—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
193	Program Ineligibility for Noncompliance With Boll Weevil Eradication Program	0560-AD57
194	Sugar and Crystalline Fructose Information and Recordkeeping Requirements	0560-AD88
195	Small Farmer Outreach Training and Technical Assistance Program	0560-AE17
196	Selection and Functions of Farm Service Agency State and County Committees	0560-AE33
197	Implementation Procedures for Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act	0560-AE38
198	Amendments to the Farmer Account Servicing Policies	0560-AE42
199	Amendments to the Standards for Approval of Warehouse for Commodity Credit Corporation Storage Contracts ...	0560-AE50
200	Deletion of FSA Regulations Regarding Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program	0560-AE54
201	Amendment to the Conservation Reserve Program Regarding Early Contract Terminations	0560-AE56
202	Suspension of the Emergency Livestock Assistance Regulations for Crop Years 1996 to 2002	0560-AE86
203	Direct Line of Credit Program	0560-AE90
204	Revision of Regulations Pertaining to Indian Tribes and Tribal Corporations	0560-AE91
205	Amendments To Update the Tobacco Program Regulations	0560-AF05
206	Amendments To Update the Peanut Program Regulations	0560-AF06

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Farm Service Agency—Long-Term Actions (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
207	Amendments To Update Farm Program Payment Limitation and Disaster Regulations Under the National Performance Review	0560-AF10
208	Amendment to the Cotton Warehouse Regulations Regarding the Definition of "Unnecessary Delay"	0560-AF13
209	Amendments to the Debt Settlement Policies and Procedures To Conform to the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996	0560-AF22
210	Amendments to the Forage Provisions of the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program	0560-AF23
211	Refund of Marketing Quota Penalties and Tobacco Auction Warehouse Records and Reports	0560-AF26
212	Refund of Marketing Quota Penalties and Other Peanut Program Provisions	0560-AF27
213	Contracting Additional Peanuts by Type and Segregation	0560-AF28
214	American Indian Livestock Feed Program	0560-AF29
215	Sugar Program Information Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements	0560-AF31
216	Upland Cotton User Marketing Certificate Program; Revision of Regulations	0560-AF32
217	Cooperative Marketing Associations	0560-AF33
218	Inapplicability to FSA's Farm Loan Programs of Redundant Instructions Regarding the Collection and Depositing of Program Payments	0560-AF34
219	Amendment to the Farm Reconstitution Regulations	0560-AF36
220	Change in Warehouse Receipt Requirements for CCC's Cotton Loan and Loan Deficiency Payment Programs	0560-AF39
221	Chemical Testing of Farmers' Stock Peanuts for Aflatoxin Content	0560-AF40
222	Dairy Recourse Loan Program	0560-AF41
223	Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program Regulations for the 1998 and Succeeding Crop Years	0560-AF46
224	Amendments to the Regulations Regarding Suspension and Debarment From Commodity Credit Corporation Programs	0560-AF47
225	1999-Crop Peanuts National Poundage Quota, National Average Loan Rates and Minimum Export-Edible Sales Price for Additional Peanuts	0560-AF48
226	1999-Crop Marketing Quota and Price Support Level for Flue-Cured Tobacco	0560-AF49
227	1999-Crop Marketing Quota and Price Support Level for Burley Tobacco	0560-AF50
228	Remove Internal Agency Provision From FSA Farm Credit Program Regulation—Liquidation of Loans Secured by Real Estate and Acquisition of Real and Chattel Property	0560-AF53
229	Debt Settlement of the Farm Loan Program's Nonprogram Loans	0560-AF54
230	Cleaning and Reinspection of Farmers' Stock Peanuts	0560-AF56
231	Disaster Set-Aside Program Second Installment	0560-AF59
232	Regulatory Streamlining of the Farm Service Agency's Direct Farm Loan Programs	0560-AF60
233	Amendments to the Regulations Governing the Peanut Poundage Quota and Price Support Programs	0560-AF61
234	Accelerated Production Flexibility Contract Payments	0560-AF65
235	Nonrecourse Marketing Assistance Loans for Crambe	0560-AF68
236	Streamlining of Regulations for Real Estate Appraisals and Chattel Appraisals	0560-AF69
237	Small Hog Operation Payment Plan	0560-AF70
238	Low Documentation Loan	0560-AF71
239	Modification of Collateral Requirements for Emergency Loans	0560-AF72
240	Marketing Assistance Loan Provisions for the 1998 and Subsequent Crop Years	0560-AF76
241	Amendments to the Conservation Reserve Program Regulations Regarding Loan Eligibility	0560-AF77
242	Servicing Shared Appreciation Agreements	0560-AF78
243	Production Flexibility Contracts for Wheat, Feed Grains, Rice, and Upland Cotton	0560-AF79

Farm Service Agency—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
244	Amendments to the Regulations for Cotton Warehouses Under the United States Warehouse Act—Electronic Block Warehouse Receipts, Insurance Requirements, and Other Provisions	0560-AE60
245	1998-Crop Marketing Quotas and Price Support Levels for Eight Kinds of Tobacco	0560-AF20
246	Lender Buyback of Repurchased Guaranteed Loans	0560-AF21
247	Revision of FSA-Guaranteed Loan Regulations—Interest Subsidy for Guaranteed Borrowers	0560-AF35
248	End-Use Certificate Program	0560-AF64
249	Dairy Indemnity Payment Program	0560-AF66
250	Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program	0560-AF67
251	Crop Loss Disaster Assistance Program	0560-AF75

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Farm Service Agency—Completed Actions (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
252	1998-Crop Peanuts National Poundage Quota, National Average Price Support Level for Quota and Additional Peanuts, and Minimum CCC Export-Edible Sales Price for Additional Peanuts	0560-AF81

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
253	Noxious Weeds; Weed Categories and Priorities	0579-AB07

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
254	Plant Pest Regulations; Update of Current Provisions	0579-AA80
255	Karnal Bunt	0579-AA83
256	Veterinary Services Multi-Year User Fees	0579-AA87
257	Interstate Movement of Sheep and Goats From States That Do Not Quarantine Scrapie-Infected and Source Flocks	0579-AA90
258	Irradiation Phytosanitary Treatment of Imported Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	0579-AA97
259	Importation of Solid Wood Packing Material (Reg Plan Seq. No. 2)	0579-AA99
260	Horse Protection; Horse Industry Organizations	0579-AB04
261	User Fees—Rate Revisions for Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection Service	0579-AB05

References in boldface appear in the Regulatory Plan in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
262	Animal Welfare—Standards for Marine Mammals	0579-AA59
263	Importation of Logs, Lumber, and Other Unmanufactured Wood Articles	0579-AA82
264	Importation of Grapefruit, Lemons, and Oranges From Argentina	0579-AA92
265	Restrictions on the Importation of Ruminants, Meat and Meat Products From Ruminants, and Certain Other Ruminant Products	0579-AA98
266	Importation of Rhododendron in Growing Media	0579-AB00
267	Commercial Transportation of Equines to Slaughter	0579-AB06
268	Importation of Gypsy Moth Host Material From Canada	0579-AB11

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
269	Importation of Certain Embryos and Animal Semen	0579-AA63
270	Importation of Pork and Pork Products From Yucatan and Sonora, Mexico	0579-AA91
271	Importation of Fuji Apples From the Republic of Korea	0579-AA93
272	Animal Welfare; Inspection, Licensing, and Procurement of Animals	0579-AA94
273	Importation of Poultry From Sinaloa and Sonora, Mexico	0579-AA96
274	Requiring Treatment of Solid Wood Packing Material From China	0579-AB01
275	Importation of Unmanufactured Wood Articles From Mexico	0579-AB02
276	Establishment of Regions in the European Union for Hog Cholera, Foot-and-Mouth Disease, and Swine Vesicular Disease	0579-AB03
277	Noxious Weeds; Restrictions on Interstate Movement	0579-AB08

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Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Long-Term Actions (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
278	Aquaculture; Farm-Raised Fin Fish	0579-AB09
279	Pseudorabies in Swine; Payment of Indemnity	0579-AB10

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
280	Importation of Fruits and Vegetables	0579-AA58
281	Licensing Requirements for Dogs and Cats	0579-AA95

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
282	Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program; Administrative Provisions	0524-AA09
283	Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program Administrative Provisions	0524-AA17
284	Community Food Projects Administrative Provisions	0524-AA19
285	Small Business Innovation Research Program Administrative Provisions	0524-AA20
286	Biotechnology Risk Assessment Research Grants Program Administrative Provisions	0524-AA21
287	National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program Administrative Provisions	0524-AA22

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
288	Stakeholder Input to Research, Education, and Extension Formula Funds	0524-AA23
289	Matching Funds Requirement for Formula Funds for Agricultural Research and Extension Activities at 1890 Land Grant Institutions and Tuskegee University	0524-AA24

Rural Housing Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
290	Civil Rights Compliance Requirements—1901-E to 1940-D	0575-AA83
291	Servicing Community Programs Loans and Grants	0575-AC12
292	Multi-Family Housing Reinvention	0575-AC13
293	Guaranteed Rural Housing Loan Single Family	0575-AC18
294	Self-Help Technical Assistance Grants	0575-AC20

Rural Housing Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
295	Denying Credit to Applicants Delinquent on Any Federal Debt	0575-AA66
296	Reengineering and Reinvention of the Direct Section 502 and 504 Single-Family Housing Program	0575-AB99

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Rural Housing Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
297	Environmental Program Streamline Environmental Process	0575-AB98
298	National Flood Insurance Regulations	0575-AC07

Rural Housing Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
299	Community Facility Grants	0575-AC10
300	Direct Single-Family Housing Loans and Grants	0575-AC11
301	Section 538 Guarantee Rural Rental Housing Program	0575-AC14
302	Community Programs Guaranteed Loans	0575-AC17
303	Farm Labor Housing—Competitive Funding	0575-AC19

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
304	General Administrative Regulations; High Risk Land Regulations	0563-AA98
305	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart D; Application for Crop Insurance	0563-AB00
306	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Small Grains Crop Insurance Provisions and Wheat Winter Coverage Endorsement	0563-AB63
307	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Coarse Grains Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AB64
308	General Administrative Regulations; Movement of Business Among Insurance Providers	0563-AB71
309	General Administrative Regulations; Reinsurance Agreement—Standards for Approval	0563-AB72
310	General Administrative Regulations; Sanctions	0563-AB73
311	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Florida Fruit Tree Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AB75
312	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Blueberry Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AB76
313	Dairy Options Pilot Program—Revised Notice of Availability	0563-AB77
314	General Administrative Regulations; Civil Rights Data Collection	0563-AB78
315	Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Millet Crop Insurance Provisions	0563-AB79

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
316	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart S; Regulations for Insurance Coverage by Written Agreement	0563-AB07
317	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart J; Appeal Procedure Regulations	0563-AB17
318	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart N; Disaster Assistance Act of 1988	0563-AB20
319	Federal Crop Insurance on Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands—Part 400	0563-AB59
320	Federal Crop Insurance on Highly Erodible Land and Wetlands—Part 401	0563-AB60
321	General Administrative Regulations; Nonstandard Underwriting Classification System	0563-AB66
322	General Administrative Regulations; Premium Reductions; Payments of Rebates, Dividends, and Patronage Refunds; and Payments to Insured-Owned and Record-Controlling Entities	0563-AB70

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
323	Group Risk Plan Crop Insurance Provisions; Part 407	0563-AB06
324	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart V; Submission of Policies and Provisions of Policies and Rates of Premium	0563-AB15

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Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—Completed Actions (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
325	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart T—Regulations for the 1999 and Subsequent Reinsurance Years	0563-AB67
326	General Administrative Regulations; Subpart U; and Catastrophic Risk Protection Endorsement—Regulations for the 1999 and Subsequent Reinsurance Years	0563-AB68
327	General Administrative Regulations; Interpretations of Statutory and Regulatory Provisions	0563-AB74

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
328	Review Inspection Requirements	0580-AA58
329	Regulations Under Packers and Stockyards Act (Price Reporting)	0580-AA65

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
330	Tolerances for Dividers	0580-AA57
331	Regulations Issued Under Packers and Stockyards Act (Feed Weight)	0580-AA64

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
332	Poultry Grower Contracts, Scales, Weighing	0580-AA51

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
333	Official Testing Service for Barley Protein Analysis	0580-AA68

Food and Nutrition Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
334	Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Miscellaneous Provisions	0584-AB10
335	Provisions of Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, Amendments of 1990, and Implementation of the Disqualified Recipient Subsystem	0584-AB51
336	Food Stamp Program: Retailer Application Processing	0584-AC05
337	Disclosure of Free and Reduced-Price Eligibility Information Under the School Nutrition and Child and Adult Care Food Programs	0584-AC21
338	Food Stamp Program: Welfare Reform Matching, Fair Hearings and Recipient Service Rule	0584-AC22
339	Child and Adult Care Food Program: Improving Management and Program Integrity (Reg Plan Seq. No. 3)	0584-AC24
340	Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced-Price Meals and Free Milk in Schools: Provision 2 and Provision 3 ...	0584-AC25
341	Food Stamp Program Regulatory Review: Certification of Eligible Households	0584-AC28
342	Part 240, Cash In Lieu of Donated Foods and Part 250, Food Distribution Regulations	0584-AC31
343	Food Stamp Program Regulatory Review: FSP Standards for Approval and Operation of Food Stamp Electronic Benefit Transfer Systems	0584-AC37

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Food and Nutrition Service—Proposed Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
344	FSP: Personal Responsibility Provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Reg Plan Seq. No. 4)	0584-AC39
345	FSP: State Flexibility and Certification Provisions of Public Law 104-193 (Reg Plan Seq. No. 5)	0584-AC40
346	Food Stamp Program: Work Provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Reg Plan Seq. No. 6)	0584-AC45
347	Food Distributions Programs: Commodity Acceptability Report	0584-AC56
348	WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP): Expansion Funds Allocation Formula	0584-AC68
349	FSP: Civil Rights Data Collections	0584-AC75
350	FDPIR: Income Deduction and Miscellaneous Provision Rule	0584-AC81
351	Commodity Supplemental Food Program: Plain Language, Program Accountability, and Program Flexibility	0584-AC84
352	Food Stamp Program: Payment Adjustments	0584-AC86

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Food and Nutrition Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
353	Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Food Delivery Systems Integrity (Reg Plan Seq. No. 7)	0584-AA80
354	Child and Adult Care Food Program: Authority To Collect Overclaims	0584-AB19
355	Direct Certification in National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and Special Milk Programs	0584-AB35
356	WIC: Requirements for and Evaluation of WIC Program Requests for Bids for Infant Formula Rebate Contracts ...	0584-AB52
357	Food Stamp Program: Anticipating Income and Reporting Changes	0584-AB57
358	Food Stamp Program: Payment of Certain Administrative Costs of State Agencies	0584-AB66
359	Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: Definition of Indian Tribal Household	0584-AB67
360	Amendments to the Infant Meal Pattern	0584-AB81
361	Food Stamp Program: Food Stamp Recipient Claim Establishment and Collection Standards (Reg Plan Seq. No. 8)	0584-AB88
362	Food Stamp Program: Revisions to the Retail Food Store Definition and Program Authorization Guidance (Reg Plan Seq. No. 9)	0584-AB90
363	Summer Food Service Program: Program Meal Service During the School Year	0584-AC06
364	Implementation of Legislative Reforms in the Summer Food Service Program	0584-AC23
365	WIC: Bloodwork Requirements	0584-AC30
366	National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Additional Menu Planning Alternatives	0584-AC38
367	FSP: Nondiscretionary Provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Reg Plan Seq. No. 10)	0584-AC41
368	Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996	0584-AC44
369	Food Distribution Program: Regulatory Implementation of Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PL 104-193, 110 Stat 2105)	0584-AC49
370	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC: Implementation of WIC-Related Provisions of PL 104-193, Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996	0584-AC51
371	Food Stamp Program: Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Benefit Adjustments	0584-AC61
372	Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: Disqualification Penalties for Intentional Program Violations ...	0584-AC65
373	FSP: EBT System SAS70 Audit Requirements	0584-AC71
374	Child Nutrition Programs: Reimbursement for Snacks in Afterschool Care Programs	0584-AC72
375	WIC: Local Agency Expenditure Reports	0584-AC74
376	WIC: Certification Integrity	0584-AC76
377	WIC: WIC Funding Provisions of Public Law 105-336	0584-AC77
378	Food Distribution Program: Deletion of Requirement to Evaluate State-Run Commodity Distribution and Warehousing Systems Every Three Years	0584-AC79
379	Modification of the "Vegetable Proteins Products" Requirements for the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Summer Food Service Program and Child and Adult Care Food Program	0584-AC82
380	Waiver Authority To Implement Pilot Projects Resulting From Recommendations from "Food Distribution 2000: Transforming Food Distribution for the Next Millennium"	0584-AC83

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Food and Nutrition Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
381	Child and Adult Care Food Program: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act Amendments and Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994	0584-AC20
382	Regulatory Reform: Provisions Relating to Firms Participating in the Food Stamp Program	0584-AC48
383	Food Stamp Provisions of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997	0584-AC63

Food and Nutrition Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
384	Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Food Cost Containment Requirements	0584-AB11
385	Food Stamp Program: 1995 Quality Control Technical Amendments	0584-AB38
386	School Nutrition Programs: Technical and Nondiscretionary Amendments	0584-AC01
387	Amendment To Remove Formulated Grain—Fruit Product Section	0584-AC09
388	Consolidation of National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program and Summer Food Service Program Into a Comprehensive School Meal Program	0584-AC10
389	WIC: Food Package Adjustments and Corrections	0584-AC29
390	Food Stamp Program: Retailer Integrity, Fraud Reduction and Penalties	0584-AC46
391	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Disqualification of WIC Vendors Who Are Disqualified From the Food Stamp Program	0584-AC50
392	Implementation of Legislative Changes in the Child and Adult Care Food Program	0584-AC52
393	WIC: Food and Nutrition Services and Administration (NSA) Funding Formula Rule	0584-AC64
394	Commodity Supplemental Food Program: Program Streamlining, Flexibility, and Miscellaneous Amendments	0584-AC66
395	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Soy-Base Beverages (Soymilk) in WIC	0584-AC67
396	Maximum Allotments for 48 States & DC & Income Eligibility Standards for 48 States, DC, AK, GU and VI	0584-AC69
397	FSP: Maximum Allotments for Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and the Virgin Islands	0584-AC70
398	WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP): Nondiscretionary Provisions of the William F. Goodling Reauthorization Act of 1998	0584-AC80

Food Safety and Inspection Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
399	Performance Standards for Ready-to-Eat Meat and Poultry Products	0583-AC46
400	Performance Standards for Bacon	0583-AC49
401	Labeling of Food Under the Voluntary Nutrition Labeling Program; 1996 Retail Survey Compliance Results	0583-AC55
402	Reform of Regulations on Imported Livestock and Poultry Products (Reg Plan Seq. No. 11)	0583-AC56
403	Agency Organization and Terminology	0583-AC57
404	Egg Products Inspection Regulations (Reg Plan Seq. No. 12)	0583-AC58
405	Nutrition Labeling of Ground or Chopped Meat or Poultry Products and Single-Ingredient Products	0583-AC60
406	Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems; Additions to E. Coli Criteria and Salmonella Performance Standards (Reg Plan Seq. No. 13)	0583-AC63

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Food Safety and Inspection Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
407	Substances Approved for Use in the Preparation of Meat and Poultry Products (Reg Plan Seq. No. 14)	0583-AB02
408	Retained Water in Raw Meat and Poultry Products; Poultry-Chilling Performance Standards	0583-AC26
409	Rules of Practice	0583-AC34
410	Elimination of Requirements for Partial Quality Control Programs (Reg Plan Seq. No. 15)	0583-AC35

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Food Safety and Inspection Service—Final Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
411	Irradiation of Meat and Meat Products	0583-AC50
412	Meat Produced by Advanced Meat/Bone Separation Machinery and Recovery Systems	0583-AC51

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Food Safety and Inspection Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
413	Nutrition Labeling of Ground Beef and Hamburger	0583-AB74
414	Transportation, Storage, and Other Handling of Potentially Hazardous Foods	0583-AC05
415	Grant and Inauguration of Inspection	0583-AC07
416	Beef or Pork With Barbecue Sauce; Revision of Standards	0583-AC09
417	Performance Standard for the Chilling or Other Processing of Livestock Carcasses and Ready-to-Cook Poultry	0583-AC21
418	Ante-Mortem and Post-Mortem Inspection of Livestock and Poultry	0583-AC43
419	Requirements for Disposition and Disposal of Inspected Raw Meat and Poultry Products	0583-AC44
420	Reworking of Meat and Poultry Carcasses Accidentally Contaminated During Evisceration	0583-AC53
421	Labeling—Generic Approval and Regulation Consolidation	0583-AC59

Food Safety and Inspection Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
422	Use of Soy Protein Concentrate, Food Starch-Modified and Gelatin as Binders in Certain Meat Products	0583-AB82
423	Addition of Mexico to List of Countries Eligible To Export Poultry Products to the United States	0583-AC33
424	Sanitation Requirements for Official Meat and Poultry Establishments	0583-AC39
425	Labeling Standards for Ovine Carcasses, Parts of Carcasses, Meat and Meat-Food Products	0583-AC41
426	Performance Standards for Shelf-Stable, Ready-to-Eat Products	0583-AC45
427	Elimination of Accredited Laboratory Program for Food Chemistry and Residue Chemistry	0583-AC48
428	Salmonella Enteritidis in Eggs	0583-AC52
429	Fee Increase for Inspection Services of Meat and Poultry Products	0583-AC54

Foreign Agricultural Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
430	Export Sales Reporting Requirement	0551-AA51
431	Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quoting Licensing	0551-AA58

Foreign Agricultural Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
432	CCC Supplier Credit Guarantee Program	0551-AA30
433	Facility Guarantee Program	0551-AA35

USDA

Foreign Agricultural Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
434	Proposed Regulations Governing Implementation of the Cooperator Foreign Market Development Program Overseas	0551-AA26
435	Reform of Export Bonus Program	0551-AA41
436	Dairy Tariff-Rate Import Quota Licensing	0551-AA53

Forest Service—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
437	National Forest System Roadless Areas (Reg Plan Seq. No. 16)	0596-AB77

References in boldface appear in the Regulatory Plan in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Forest Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
438	Hydropower Applications	0596-AA47
439	National Forest Prohibitions	0596-AA75
440	Small Tracts Act Regulations	0596-AA79
441	Species Surplus to Domestic Manufacturing Needs	0596-AB27
442	Collection of Reimbursable Costs for Processing Special-Use Applications and Administration of Special-Use Authorizations	0596-AB36
443	Appeal of Decisions Relating to Occupancy and Use of National Forest System Lands	0596-AB45
444	Sale and Disposal of National Forest System Timber; Extension of Timber Sale Contracts To Permit Urgent Removal of Other Timber	0596-AB48
445	National Environmental Policy Act; Revised Policy and Procedures; Categorical Exclusions	0596-AB54
446	Law Enforcement Support Activities	0596-AB61
447	Administration of the Forest Development Transportation System	0596-AB67
448	Noncompetitive Sale of Timber	0596-AB70
449	Categorical Exclusion for Certain Special Uses Permit Actions (FSH 1909.15, chapter 30)	0596-AB73
450	Clarification of Exemptions From Special-Use Authorizations	0596-AB74
451	Sale and Disposal of National Forest System Timber; Timber Export and Substitution Restrictions	0596-AB75
452	Appeal of Regional Guides and National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans; Multi-Agency Decisions	0596-AB76

Forest Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
453	Indian Allotments on National Forest System Lands	0596-AA52
454	National Forest System Land and Resource Management Planning (Reg Plan Seq. No. 17)	0596-AB20
455	Disposal of National Forest Timber; Cancellation of Timber Sale Contracts	0596-AB21
456	State and Private Forestry Assistance Stewardship Incentive Program	0596-AB32
457	Preference for Visitor Service; Alaska National Forest Conservation System Units	0596-AB57
458	Administrative, Cooperative Funds Agreements	0596-AB63
459	Notice, Comment, and Appeal Procedures for National Forest System Projects and Activities	0596-AB69
460	Small Business Timber Sale Set-Aside Recomputation Basis	0596-AB72

References in boldface appear in the Regulatory Plan in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

USDA**Forest Service—Completed Actions**

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
461	Disposal of National Forest Timber: Timber Sale Contract Revisions	0596-AB52
462	Appeal of Decisions Relating to Occupancy and Use of National Forest System Lands; Mediation of Grazing Permit Disputes	0596-AB59

Office of the Secretary—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
463	Designation of Rural Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities	0503-AA20

Office of the Secretary—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
464	Nondiscrimination in USDA-Conducted Programs and Activities	0503-AA15
465	Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments ...	0503-AA16

Office of the Secretary—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
466	Uniform Procedures for the Acquisition and Transfer of Excess Personal Property	0503-AA19

Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
467	Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program	0570-AA19
468	Business and Industry Direct Loan Program	0570-AA22
469	Business and Industrial Guaranteed Loan Program—Miscellaneous Changes	0570-AA23
470	Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan	0570-AA24
471	Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program—Financing Cooperative Stock	0570-AA26

Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
472	Rural Business Opportunity Grants	0570-AA05

Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
473	Rural Venture Capital Demonstration Program	0570-AA25
474	Rural and Rural Area Under the Rural Community Advancement Program	0570-AA27
475	Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program	0570-AA28

USDA

Rural Utilities Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
476	Preservation of Records Accounting Requirements for RUS Electric Borrowers	0572-AA92
477	Water and Waste Loan and Grant Servicing	0572-AB23
478	Telecommunications Standards and Specifications for Materials, Equipment, and Construction	0572-AB40
479	Seismic Safety	0572-AB47
480	Revision of RUS Telecommunications Program and RTB Loan Documents	0572-AB48

Rural Utilities Service—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
481	Load Forecasts	0572-AB05
482	Special Equipment Contract (Including Installation)	0572-AB35

Rural Utilities Service—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
483	Electric Standards and Specifications for Materials and Construction	0572-AA67
484	Post-Loan Policies and Procedures Common to Insured and Guaranteed Electric Loans	0572-AA71
485	Loan Documents—Bank Program	0572-AA76
486	Depreciation Rates and Procedures	0572-AA80
487	Use of General Funds Investments, Loan Guarantees, and Retirement of Capital Credits by Electric Borrowers	0572-AB01
488	RUS Approval of Sale of Capital Assets by Electric Borrowers	0572-AB02
489	Community Facility Loans—Timber-Dependent Communities	0572-AB11
490	Solid Waste Management Grants	0572-AB14
491	Technical Assistance and Training Grants	0572-AB15
492	RUS Approval of Additions and Extensions to Electric Plants	0572-AB38
493	Telecommunications System Construction Contract and Specifications	0572-AB41

Rural Utilities Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
494	Civil Rights Policies Applicable to RUS Borrowers	0572-AA75
495	Telecommunications System Construction Policies and Procedures	0572-AB34
496	Amending the Rural Utilities Service Water and Waste Program Regulations	0572-AB44
497	Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program	0572-AB45
498	Construction Work Plans and Related Studies	0572-AB46
499	Central Office Equipment Contract (Not Including Installation)	0572-AB50

Natural Resources Conservation Service—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
500	Conservation of Private Grazing Land	0578-AA29

USDA**Natural Resources Conservation Service—Final Rule Stage**

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
501	Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation	0578-AA17
502	Forestry Incentives Program	0578-AA26
503	Wetland Categorical Minimal Effects Exemptions	0578-AA27

Natural Resources Conservation Service—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
504	7 CFR Part 610 Technical Assistance	0578-AA22

Office of Procurement and Property Management—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
505	Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR); Contractor Employment of Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers	0599-AA05

Office of Procurement and Property Management—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
506	Department of Agriculture Priorities and Administrative Guideline for Donation of Excess Research Equipment	0599-AA06
507	Agricultural Acquisition Regulations: Rewrite; Contracting by Negotiation	0599-AA07

Office of Procurement and Property Management—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
508	New Restrictions on Lobbying	0599-AA03

Office of Procurement and Property Management—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
509	Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR); Simplified Acquisition Procedures	0599-AA04

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)
Proposed Rule Stage**165. NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM**

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 1 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0581-AA40

166. NATIONAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 7 USC 138 to 138i

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 100

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The 1990 Farm Bill authorized the creation of a National Laboratory Accreditation Program (NLAP) for laboratories that request accreditation and conduct residue testing of agricultural products concerning chemical residue levels on

USDA—AMS

Proposed Rule Stage

agricultural products. The program is designed to protect human health by ensuring that laboratories which make claims to the public concerning pesticide residue levels meet minimum quality and reliability standards. The standards for the NLAP will be provided by the Food and Drug Administration with the operation of the program under the Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA. The program costs will be offset by a fee schedule. The one-time appropriation was used to provide for a fully equipped pesticide laboratory to verify the findings of those laboratories applying for accreditation.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/20/92	57 FR 54727
ANPRM Comment Period End	01/19/93	
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected:

Undetermined

Agency Contact: I-Pin Ho, Chemist, Technical Services Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Room 3521, Science and Technology, P.O. Box 96456, South, Washington, DC 20090-6456
Phone: 202 205-4993

RIN: 0581-AB42

167. • PROCESSED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: QUALIFIED THROUGH VERIFICATION (QTV)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1621 to 1627

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 52

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Department of Agriculture (USDA) is proposing to revise the regulations governing inspection and certification of processed fruits and vegetables and certain other products by making changes to the definitions for the terms "inspection service, general"; "inspection service, types of"; official identification"; and "official marks" to specifically provide for a new voluntary audit-based inspection service for food safety and wholesomeness under the authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act (AMA) of 1946, amended. The "Qualified Through Verification (QTV)

Program was developed as a pilot program in 1995 at the request of the fresh-cut produce industry. The industry asked for a voluntary audit and verification service using science-based techniques that would help maintain public confidence in the wholesomeness of minimally processed fruits and vegetables. AMS finds that the economic impact of this action on businesses should be similar in effect to other existing voluntary programs within the agency and that firms availing themselves of the QTV program will not necessarily have a significant marketing advantage or risk over those that do not use the service. It is reasonable to assume that a company would not choose to participate in the program unless it expected benefits to exceed costs. AMS went out in a variety of ways, public meetings and public notice to inform the public of the new service which was requested initially by the fresh-cut produce industry. The AMA of 1946 provides AMS authority for offering voluntary quality assurance and related services.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Organizations

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: James R. Rodeheaver, Chief, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, MS 0709, F&V, PPB, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456
Phone: 202 720-4693
Email: james.rodeheaver@usda.gov

RIN: 0581-AB58

168. • GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR DAIRY PLANTS APPROVED FOR USDA INSPECTION AND GRADING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1621 to 1627

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 58

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed rule would: (1) Lower the maximum allowable bacterial estimate for manufacturing-grade producer milk from 1,000,000 per milliliter to 5,000,000 per milliliter. (2) Lower the maximum allowable somatic cell count from 1,000,000 to 750,000

cells per milliliter. (3) Lower the maximum permitted bacterial estimate in commingled milk from 3,000,000 per milliliter to 1,000,000 per milliliter. (4) Modify the follow-up procedures when producer herd milk exceeds the maximum allowable bacterial estimate. (5) Delete the laboratory screening test for somatic cells in producer-held milk samples (no change for goat milk). (6) Make editorial changes where necessary.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Duane R. Spomer, Chief, Dairy Standardization Branch, Dairy Division, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2748-So. Bldg., Washington, DC 20090-6456
Phone: 202 720-7473
Email: duane.spomer@usda.gov

RIN: 0581-AB59

169. • BLUEBERRY RESEARCH, PROMOTION, AND INFORMATION ORDER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 7411 to 7425

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1218

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: A proposal was submitted to the Department of Agriculture for a Blueberry Research, Promotion, and Information Order. Under the Order, producers and importers would pay an assessment of \$12 per ton. The assessment would be used to conduct a program to maintain, expand, and develop markets for blueberries. The proposed order was published on July 22, 1999 (64 FR 39790). A national referendum will be held to determine if the program will be implemented.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/22/99	64 FR 39790
NPRM Comment Period End	09/20/99	
Second NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

USDA—AMS

Proposed Rule Stage

Small Entities Affected: Businesses
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Oliver Layne Flake, Marketing Specialist, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, 0244, FV/Research and Promotion Branch, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2535, So. Bldg., Washington, DC 20090-6456
 Phone: 202 720-5976
 Email: Oliver.flake@usda.gov
RIN: 0581-AB61

170. • OLIVE OIL RESEARCH, PROMOTION, AND INFORMATION ORDER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 7411 to 7425
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1217
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: A proposal was submitted by the North American Olive Association for a Olive Oil Research, Promotion, and Information Order. This program would be funded by an assessment on first handlers and importers of \$0.01 per pound. The proposed rule was published on August 26, 1999.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/26/99	64 FR 46754
NPRM Comment Period End	12/03/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses
Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Oliver Layne Flake, Marketing Specialist, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, 0244, USDA, AMS-FV/Research and Promotion Branch, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2535, So. Bldg., Washington, DC 20090-6456

Phone: 202 720-5976
 Email: Oliver.flake@usda.gov
RIN: 0581-AB62

171. • FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: FEE INCREASE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1621 to 1627
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 51
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would revise the regulations governing the inspection and certification for fresh fruits, vegetables and other products by increasing by approximately 14 percent the fees charged for the inspection of these products at destination markets. These revisions are necessary in order to recover, as nearly as practicable, the costs of performing inspection services at destination markets under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946. The fees charged to persons required to have inspections on imported commodities in accordance with the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 and for imported peanuts under the Agricultural Act of 1949 would also be affected. It is essential that the inspection program be self-sustaining and this fee increase is necessary to ensure that the program continues to support itself.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/20/99	64 FR 50774
NPRM Comment Period End	11/19/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert J. Huttenlocker, Head, Program Support Section, Fresh Products Branch,

Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Room 2049, P.O. Box 96456, South, Washington, DC 20090-6456
 Phone: 202 720-0297
 Email: robert__j__huttenlocker@usda.gov

RIN: 0581-AB63

172. • LIVESTOCK MANDATORY REPORTING ACT OF 1999

Priority: Economically Significant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1621
CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory, January 2000.
 Final, Statutory, April 2000.

Abstract: The purpose of this rule is to establish a program of information regarding the marketing of cattle, swine, lambs, and products of such livestock.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: John E. VanDyke, Chief, Livestock and Grain Market News, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Room 2619, South Building, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20090-6456
 Phone: 202 720-6231
 Fax: 202 720-3499
 Email: john.vandyke@usda.gov

RIN: 0581-AB64

Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)

Final Rule Stage

173. FEDERAL SEED ACT; AMENDMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 1551 to 1611
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 201
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The objective of this proposal is to update the Federal Seed Act (FSA) regulations to incorporate current seed testing and seed certification procedures, and the proposal would also make seeds of Federal Noxious Weed Act (FNWA) species noxious, in interstate shipments of seed. This amendment would keep the FSA

regulations consistent with present technology and prevent conflicts between Federal and State regulations that could inhibit the free movement of seed. Making the FNWA species noxious would provide the States and AMS a means to regulate and prevent the spread of these highly destructive weeds.

USDA—AMS

Final Rule Stage

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/20/98	63 FR 55964
NPRM Comment Period End	02/04/99	
Final Action	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Richard C. Payne, Seed Regulatory and Testing Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Room 209, Building 306, BARC-East, Beltsville, MD 20705-2325

Phone: 301 504-9430

Email: richard.payne2@usda.gov

RIN: 0581-AB55

174. VOLUNTARY SHELL EGG REGULATIONS; REPACKAGING OF SHELL EGGS UNDER USDA'S GRADING PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1621 to 1627**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 56**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Currently about one-third of the Nation's table eggs are marketed under the voluntary shell egg-grading program. Shell egg processors that choose to use this service pay a fee to have graders in their plants monitor processing operations and verify the grade and size of eggs packaged into packages bearing the USDA grade

shield. The proposal would provide that in order to be officially identified with a USDA consumer grade shield, shell eggs must not be more than 15 days old (or some other period between 15 and 30 days if justified by public comment) and must not have been previously shipped for retail sale.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/27/99	64 FR 40522
NPRM Comment Period End	09/27/99	
Final Action	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Douglas C. Bailey, Chief, Standardization Branch, Poultry Programs, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Room 3944 MS 0259, South, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0259
Phone: 202 720-3506

RIN: 0581-AB56

175. • REFRIGERATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SHELL EGGS

Priority: Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1621 to 1627**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 56**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory, October 1, 1999.**Abstract:** Amendments to the Egg Products Inspection Act involved

temperature and labeling requirements. AMS proposed changes to 7 CFR part 59 (Inspection of Eggs and Egg Products) to implement the mandatory amendments and changes to 7 CFR part 56 (Grading of Shell Eggs and U.S. Standards, Grades and Weight Classes for Shell Eggs) to make its requirements conform to those mandated in part 59. A USDA reorganization then consolidated food safety responsibilities into FSIS. FSIS promulgated a final rule to revise 7 CFR part 59, later redesignated 9 CFR part 590, to become effective August 27, 1999. AMS is now amending 7 CFR part 56 to conform to the mandatory FSIS requirements, also to become effective August 27, 1999.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	10/22/99	64 FR 56945
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	12/21/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Rex A Barnes, Chief, Grading Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, PY, P.O. Box 96456, Rm. 3938-So. Bldg., Washington, DC 20090-6456
Phone: 202 720-3271

RIN: 0581-AB60

Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)

Completed Actions

176. KIWIFRUIT RESEARCH, PROMOTION, AND CONSUMER INFORMATION ORDER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1214**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	10/01/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Martha B. Ransom
Phone: 202 720-9915

RIN: 0581-AB46

177. FEDERAL MILK ORDER CONSOLIDATION AND REFORM

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1139**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Second NPRM	04/02/99	64 FR 16026
Final Action	09/01/99	64 FR 47898
Final Action Effective	10/01/99	
Final Action Effective Delayed	10/05/99	64 FR 53885

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Yes**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local

Agency Contact: John F. Borovies
Phone: 202 720-6274

Email: john.borovies@usda.gov

RIN: 0581-AB49

178. COTTON CLASSIFICATION SERVICES TO GROWERS; REVISION OF USER FEES FOR 1999 CROP

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 28

USDA—AMS

Completed Actions

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/02/99	64 FR 15937
NPRM Comment Period End	05/03/99	
Final Action	05/28/99	64 FR 28883

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: A. Lee Cliburn

Phone: 202 720-2145

RIN: 0581-AB57

BILLING CODE 3410-02-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

Proposed Rule Stage

179. NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL
LIBRARY FEES FOR LOANS AND
COPYING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 101-624, sec 104

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 505

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Department of Agriculture seeks comments on a proposed rule establishing a fee schedule for loans of materials and

copying of materials in the collections of the National Agricultural Library.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Carol Ditzler, Head, Document Delivery Services Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Room 300, National Agricultural Library, 10301 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705

Phone: 301 504-6503

Fax: 301 504-6856

Email: userfees@nal.usda.gov

RIN: 0518-AA01

BILLING CODE 3410-90-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Prerule Stage

180. • METHOD OF CALCULATION OF
LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENT RATES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 7231-7235, 7237; 15 USC 714b and 714c

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1421

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Commodity Credit Corporation is seeking comments regarding the potential implementation of a new method for determining alternative loan repayment and loan deficiency payment (LDP) rates under the marketing assistance loan and LDP programs for wheat, feed grains, and oilseeds. The proposed method would

replace the posted county price system (PCP) that has been used for determining alternative loan repayment and LDP rates since the 1991 crops of soybeans and minor oilseeds and the 1993 crops of wheat and feed grains. The new method would remove the disparities in the LDP and marketing loan gain rates that, under the PCP system, exist across State and county lines on a given day for each commodity and replace disparate rates with a nationally determined, uniform rate.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Notice	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Chief, Regulatory Review and Foreign Investment Disclosure Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Room 6734-S, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250

Phone: 202 205-5851

Fax: 202 720-5233

Email: tom_witzig@wdc.fsa.usda.gov

RIN: 0560-AF87

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Proposed Rule Stage

181. PART 1946 MEDIATION;
SUBPART A—AGRICULTURAL LOAN
MEDIATION PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 7 USC 301; PL 103-354, sec 282

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1946 subpart A

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, October 13, 1994, Regulations will be issued as soon as practicable after 10/13/94.

Abstract: Legislation expanded the State Mediation Programs to include wetland determinations, conservation compliance, and other issues the Secretary deems appropriate. This

action will establish procedures for certification and for administering the matching grant program, and set out the Department's duties to participate in such programs. The USDA Reorganization Act of 1994 requires mediation to be a part of the informal hearing process when an officer, employee, or committee of an agency

USDA—FSA

Proposed Rule Stage

makes an adverse decision. The legislation also requires certification of a State's Mediation program in order to participate in mediation pursuant to a State's Certified Mediation program, and to enable a State to receive a Federal matching grant(s) to be used for the operation and administration of the program. The Agriculture Improvement Act of 1992 increased the percentage of grants to 70 percent from 50 percent of the cost of a State's program, limited to \$500,000, whichever is the lesser. The Reorganization Act of 1994 extended the mediation program authority through fiscal year 2000.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: State

Additional Information: This entry was reported as RIN 0575-AB91 prior to the reorganization of USDA.

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Chief, Regulatory Review and Foreign Investment Disclosure Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Room 6734-S, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
Email: tom_witzig@wdc.fsa.usda.gov

RIN: 0560-AE26

182. DEBT SETTLEMENT FOR INDIAN TRIBAL LAND ACQUISITION LOANS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1823; 7 CFR 1951

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Indian tribes have experienced loss of Federal assistance in the last 5 years due to reorganization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the shifting of responsibilities from the BIA to the tribes themselves. These have included waste management, as well as other mandates. The funding to fully meet these mandates has been insufficient, requiring tribes to use other financial resources to meet them. Funding for tribal priority allocations, which include law enforcement, housing, education, natural resource management, and other tribal services,

was reduced in FY 1996. This action will allow for a reduction of debt commensurate with reductions from other Federal sources. Action will be taken on a case-by-case basis in determining the amount and timing of any debt reduction. This action is intended to head off further repayment difficulties and strengthen tribal operations. Outlays are expected to be \$22 million.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	03/03/99	64 FR 10235
ANPRM Comment Period End	04/02/99	
NPRM	11/02/99	64 FR 59131
NPRM Comment Period End	12/02/99	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

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RIN: 0560-AF43

183. • 2000-CROP PEANUTS NATIONAL POUNDAGE QUOTA, NATIONAL AVERAGE LOAN RATES FOR QUOTA AND ADDITIONAL PEANUTS AND MINIMUM EXPORT-EDIBLE SALES PRICE FOR ADDITIONAL PEANUTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1358-1; PL 101-624, sec. 802; PL 103-66, sec. 1109; PL 104-127

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 729; 7 CFR 1446

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, December 15, 1999, Quota Announcement.

Abstract: The objective of the peanut quota is to balance supply with demand at a level that will assure stable supplies for domestic use and assure producers a stable income. This action is required by statute, which provides a formula for computing the national quota, based on the Secretary's

estimate of the amount of peanuts required for domestic food and related uses for the 2000 marketing year. The 2000 marketing year is from August 1, 2000, through July 31, 2001.

The action is also needed to implement the peanut price support program, as required by statute. The price support levels provide a domestic price floor for quota and additional peanuts and a minimum export-edible sales price for additional peanuts.

The Peanut Program, which includes the poundage quota, price support, and export policies, will result in gross outlays of \$55 million, which are expected to be offset by repayments and assessments in FY 2000 and subsequent years, for a net cost of 0.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
Quota Announcement	12/00/99	
Final Action	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF83

184. • 2000-CROP MARKETING QUOTAS AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVELS FOR FIVE KINDS OF TOBACCO

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1312; 7 USC 1445

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, March 1, 2000, Quota Announcement.

Abstract: Marketing quotas/acreage allotments and price support are required by statute for these kinds of tobacco: Fire-cured (type 21), Fire-cured (types 22-23), Dark Air-cured (types 35-36), Virginia sun-cured (type 37), and Cigar Filler and Binder (types 42-44 and 53-55). Quotas and

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Proposed Rule Stage

allotments are determined by statutory formula to balance supply with demand to assure stable supplies for domestic and export use. Marketing quotas are implemented if approved by producers in referenda. Producers approved quotas for the 2000 crops of sun-cured (type 37) and cigar filler and binder (types 42-44 and 53-55) in March 1998 and 1999. Referenda for the other kinds are scheduled for March 2000. Producers of these types have historically voted in favor of quotas. Price support levels are set by statutory formula. The Secretary may reduce the level at the request of producer associations and may limit increases to 65 percent of the formula increase. Gross loan outlays of \$1 million are expected in FY 2001, to be offset by loan redemptions and no-net-cost assessments in FY 2001 and subsequent years, for a net cost of 0.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	
Final Action	05/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF86

185. • DEBT SETTLEMENT OF FARM LOAN PROGRAM LOANS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 31 USC 3711; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1956

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSA plans to revise its Farm Loan Programs Debt Settlement regulations (7 CFR 1956-B) as follows: (1) Place settlement of nonprogram loans under 7 CFR 1956-B. This authority, which was under 7 CFR 1951-J, was removed without specifying how nonprogram debt would be settled; (2) Revise 7 CFR 1956-B with regard to bankruptcy. Most of section 1956.70(b)(3) will be removed since it addresses internal Agency procedure. The Agency has simplified internal agency procedures, which cannot be implemented until the CFR provisions are removed; (3) Revise 7 CFR 1956-B with regard to charge offs. The definition of "charge off" will be changed to note that the Government may continue its collection activity on charged off accounts, since the debt is written off without release of liability. Section 1956.75 will be rewritten to remove internal agency procedure and

to clarify that charged off accounts may be referred to the Department of Treasury for cross-servicing in accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996. Revisions will also be made to comply with changes in OMB Circular A-129. This rule will reduce losses and increase collection activity. The Agency will be able to settle delinquent loan accounts faster and minimize unnecessary interest accrual, thus minimizing losses to the Government. Qualified charged off accounts will be referred to Treasury for collection through cross-servicing.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
Final Action	07/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF88

**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Farm Service Agency (FSA)**

Final Rule Stage

186. 1999-CROP MARKETING QUOTAS AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVELS FOR FIVE KINDS OF TOBACCO

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1312; 7 USC 1445

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, March 1, 1999, Marketing Quota Announcement.

Abstract: Marketing quotas and price support are required by statute for these kinds of tobacco: Fire-cured (type 21), fire-cured (types 22-23), dark air-cured (types 35-36), Virginia sun-cured (type 37), and cigar filler and binder (types 42-44 and 53-55). Quotas and

allotments are determined by statutory formula to balance supply with demand to assure stable supplies for domestic and export. Marketing quotas are implemented if approved by producers in referenda. Producers approved quotas for the 1999 crops of fire-cured (types 21-23), dark air-cured (types 35-36), and sun-cured (type 37) in March 1997 and 1998. Referenda for the other kinds are scheduled for March 1999. Producers of these types have historically voted for quotas. Price support levels are set by statutory formula. The Secretary may reduce the level at the request of producer associations and may limit increases to 65 percent of the formula increase. Gross loan outlays of \$1 million in FY

2000 are expected to be offset by loan repayments and no-net-cost assessments in FY 2000 and subsequent years, for a net cost of 0.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/26/99	64 FR 9452
NPRM Comment Period End	03/01/99	
Final Action	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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USDA—FSA

Final Rule Stage

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RIN: 0560-AF51

187. DISASTER RESERVE FLOOD COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1427a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1439

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Disaster Reserve Flood Compensation Program is a proposed program announced by Secretary Glickman on June 8, 1998, which will utilize proceeds from the sale of grain remaining in the Disaster Reserve. This program is being established to provide monetary assistance to eligible livestock producers with flooded land that was used for the production of livestock. Long-term flooding of agricultural land has occurred in certain portions of the United States as a result of higher than normal snowfalls and excessive moisture. Benefits will be provided to livestock producers in the approved counties based on the land that is inaccessible or incapable of crop production, haying, or grazing due to the flooding present in FY 98 and that have a Presidential designation or Secretarial declaration during the period January 1, 1997, through August 1, 1998. This action is needed to authorize the program in accordance with section 813 of the Agricultural Act of 1970 (establishes the Disaster Reserve) and S. Con. Res. 63 which authorizes use of the Disaster Reserve for livestock producers. The program will cost \$12 million, which is the balance remaining in the Disaster Reserve.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule Effective	08/26/99	
Interim Final Rule	08/31/99	64 FR 47358
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	09/27/99	
Final Action	04/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF57

188. • SUSPENSION OF COLLECTION OF RECAPTURE AMOUNT FOR BORROWERS WITH CERTAIN SHARED APPRECIATION AGREEMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Shared Appreciation Agreement (SAA) insures that FSA shares in any value appreciation of real estate security when a farm borrower has received debt forgiveness on a portion of their FSA indebtedness. The amount due can be paid in full or amortized when the SAA matures, or is triggered during the term of the agreement. This action will amend the regulations for the collection of calculated shared appreciation under the existing SAA to allow temporary suspension of the shared appreciation collection for up to three years, based on extreme economic adversities now challenging FSA farm and ranch borrowers. The economic disaster now occurring is rooted in severely depressed farm commodity prices. The suspension will provide financial relief and recovery time for affected FSA borrowers whose SAA's are now maturing and who do not have the financial ability to handle the additional burden of immediate shared appreciation repayment. This temporary modification and modest delay in collecting shared appreciation will give borrowers who have received debt forgiveness the best opportunity to repay FSA all or a portion of the debt that was previously written off. Borrowers will have to pay interest on approved suspensions at the Government's cost of borrowing money. Without the proposed action, some existing Agency borrowers will face certain liquidation, despite having remained current on existing program

loans, and despite having remained in compliance with all other loan agreements. Liquidation of otherwise current borrowers could also adversely affect the Agency's ultimate ability to collect shared appreciation, as well as receive full repayment on outstanding program loans. Suspension is likely to be pursued by about 2,150 borrowers in 1999 and 1,200 in 2000, with loan volumes of \$342,000,000 and \$167,000,000, respectively. This rule will not increase losses for the Agency. FSA debt is fully collateralized.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/23/99	64 FR 19863
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	06/22/99	
Final Action	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF80

189. • 1999 LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 1999.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1439

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action is needed to implement the 1999 Livestock Indemnity Program in accordance with the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for the fiscal year 1999. The program will provide monetary assistance to eligible producers for livestock losses that occurred as a result of natural disasters between May 2, 1998, and the date of enactment of the Act (May 21, 1999). The program is available only in counties with a Presidential or Secretarial disaster declaration requested during this

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period. \$3 million has been appropriated under the CCC fund.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	11/01/99	64 FR 58766
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	01/03/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected: None**

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RIN: 0560-AF82

190. • 2000-CROP MARKETING QUOTA AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVEL FOR FLUE-CURED TOBACCO**Priority:** Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1314; 7 USC 1445

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, December 15, 1999, Quota Announcement.

Abstract: The flue-cured tobacco marketing quota and price support are required by statute. The purpose of the quota and price support is to balance supply with demand at levels assuring stable supplies for domestic and export use at prices that are considered sufficient for producers. The national quota is based on cigarette manufacturers' intentions, 3-year average exports, loan stocks adjustment, and a discretionary adjustment of plus or minus 3 percent. The price support level is based on a formula that averages market prices (2/3 weight) and a cost index (1/3 weight), plus discretion to limit any increase to 65 percent of the formula increase. Marketing quotas were approved by producers in a referendum in January 1998. Gross loan outlays of \$25 million in FY 2000 and 2001 are expected to be offset by loan repayments and no-net-cost assessments in FY 2000 and subsequent years, for a net cost of 0.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Quota Announcement	12/00/99	
Final Action	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected: None**

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RIN: 0560-AF84

191. • 2000-CROP MARKETING QUOTA AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVEL FOR BURLEY TOBACCO**Priority:** Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1314; 7 USC 1445

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, February 1, 2000, Quota Announcement.

Abstract: The burley tobacco marketing quota and price support are required by statute. The purpose of the quota and price support is to balance supply with demand at levels assuring stable supplies for domestic and export use at prices that are considered sufficient for producers. The national quota is based on cigarette manufacturers' intentions, 3-year average exports, a loan stocks adjustment, and a discretionary adjustment of plus or minus 3 percent. The price support level is based on a formula that averages market prices (2/3 weight) and a cost index (1/3 weight), plus discretion to limit any increase to 65 percent of the formula increase. Marketing quotas were approved by producers in a referendum in February 1998. Gross loan outlays of \$50 million in FY 2001 are expected to be offset by loan repayments and no-net-cost assessments in FY 2001 and subsequent years, for a net cost of 0.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/00/00	
Quota Announcement	05/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected: No****Government Levels Affected: None**

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RIN: 0560-AF85

192. • AMENDMENT TO THE FARM LOAN PROGRAM REGARDING THE TIME PERIOD FOR REQUESTS FOR DEBT SETTLEMENT**Priority:** Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 5 USC 1; 7 USC 1989; 31 USC 3716; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951-S

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSA has clarified its instructions regarding the referral of delinquent debts to the U.S. Department of the Treasury for collection to state that the agency will consider borrower requests for debt settlement only if they are received within 30 days of the borrower being notified of the delinquency and settlement options. This clarification is in conformance with the Federal Claims Collection Act. This action will amend Attachment 1 of Exhibit A of 7 CFR 1951-S, which informs borrowers of the availability of debt settlement programs, to include the 30-day limit in Attachment 1's reference to the instructions, and to include a statement regarding referral of debts to Treasury. This action will improve collection of debt.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected: No****Government Levels Affected: None**

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USDA—FSA

Final Rule Stage

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**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Farm Service Agency (FSA)****Long-Term Actions****193. PROGRAM INELIGIBILITY FOR
NONCOMPLIANCE WITH BOLL
WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: Not Yet Determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AD57

**194. SUGAR AND CRYSTALLINE
FRUCTOSE INFORMATION AND
RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1435

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AD88

**195. SMALL FARMER OUTREACH
TRAINING AND TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1943 subpart C

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/27/94	59 FR 66441

Final Action	To Be	Determined
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**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** Yes

Small Entities Affected: Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State

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RIN: 0560-AE17

**196. SELECTION AND FUNCTIONS OF
FARM SERVICE AGENCY STATE AND
COUNTY COMMITTEES**

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 7

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	To Be	Determined

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AE33

**197. IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES
FOR HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND
WETLANDS CONSERVATION
PROVISIONS OF THE FOOD
SECURITY ACT**

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1940

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AE38

**198. AMENDMENTS TO THE FARMER
ACCOUNT SERVICING POLICIES**

Priority: Economically Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1900; 7 CFR 1910;
7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1941; 7 CFR 1943;
7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1955; 7 CFR 1956;
7 CFR 1962; 7 CFR 1965

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	09/14/88	53 FR 35638

NPRM	10/23/91	56 FR 54970
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Interim Final Rule	04/30/92	57 FR 18612
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Interim Final Rule	10/15/92	57 FR 47257
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Interim Final Rule	03/23/93	58 FR 15418
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Interim Final Rule	05/26/93	58 FR 30104
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Interim Final Rule	12/30/93	58 FR 69190
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Final Action	To Be	Determined
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Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AE42

**199. AMENDMENTS TO THE
STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL OF
WAREHOUSE FOR COMMODITY
CREDIT CORPORATION STORAGE
CONTRACTS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1421; 7 CFR 1423;
7 CFR 1427

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AE50

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

200. DELETION OF FSA REGULATIONS REGARDING COLORADO RIVER BASIN SALINITY CONTROL PROGRAM**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 702; 7 CFR 703; 7 CFR 752**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AE54**201. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM REGARDING EARLY CONTRACT TERMINATIONS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 704**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	03/15/96	61 FR 10671
Final Action	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AE56**202. SUSPENSION OF THE EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE REGULATIONS FOR CROP YEARS 1996 TO 2002****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1475**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AE86**203. DIRECT LINE OF CREDIT PROGRAM****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1924; 7 CFR 1941**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AE90**204. REVISION OF REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL CORPORATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1823; 7 CFR 1942-F; 7 CFR 1956-C**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AE91**205. AMENDMENTS TO UPDATE THE TOBACCO PROGRAM REGULATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 711; 7 CFR 714; 7 CFR 717; 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF05**206. AMENDMENTS TO UPDATE THE PEANUT PROGRAM REGULATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1446**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF06**207. AMENDMENTS TO UPDATE FARM PROGRAM PAYMENT LIMITATION AND DISASTER REGULATIONS UNDER THE NATIONAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 777; 7 CFR 795; 7 CFR 1400**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF10**208. AMENDMENT TO THE COTTON WAREHOUSE REGULATIONS REGARDING THE DEFINITION OF "UNNECESSARY DELAY"****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 735**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	05/26/98	63 FR 28488
ANPRM Comment Period End	07/27/98	
NPRM	05/28/99	64 FR 28938
NPRM Comment Period End	07/27/99	
Final Action	To Be	Determined

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF13**209. AMENDMENTS TO THE DEBT SETTLEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO CONFORM TO THE DEBT COLLECTION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1996****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 792; 7 CFR 1403; 7 CFR 1404**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF22**210. AMENDMENTS TO THE FORAGE PROVISIONS OF THE NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1437**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	10/17/97	62 FR 53929
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF23**211. REFUND OF MARKETING QUOTA PENALTIES AND TOBACCO AUCTION WAREHOUSE RECORDS AND REPORTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 714; 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 729**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF26**212. REFUND OF MARKETING QUOTA PENALTIES AND OTHER PEANUT PROGRAM PROVISIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 729**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF27**213. CONTRACTING ADDITIONAL PEANUTS BY TYPE AND SEGREGATION****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1446**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF28**214. AMERICAN INDIAN LIVESTOCK FEED PROGRAM****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1439**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	11/27/98	63 FR 65524
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF29**215. SUGAR PROGRAM INFORMATION REPORTING AND RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1435**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF31**216. UPLAND COTTON USER MARKETING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM; REVISION OF REGULATIONS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1427**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/09/98	63 FR 67806
NPRM Comment Period End	01/08/99	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF32

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

217. COOPERATIVE MARKETING ASSOCIATIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1425**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/09/98	63 FR 17311
NPRM Comment Period End	05/11/98	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF33**218. INAPPLICABILITY TO FSA'S FARM LOAN PROGRAMS OF REDUNDANT INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE COLLECTION AND DEPOSITING OF PROGRAM PAYMENTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1951**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF34**219. AMENDMENT TO THE FARM RECONSTITUTION REGULATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 718**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF36**220. CHANGE IN WAREHOUSE RECEIPT REQUIREMENTS FOR CCC'S COTTON LOAN AND LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENT PROGRAMS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1427**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF39**221. CHEMICAL TESTING OF FARMERS' STOCK PEANUTS FOR AFLATOXIN CONTENT****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 729; 7 CFR 1446**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF40**222. DAIRY RECOURSE LOAN PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1430**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/22/99	64 FR 39442
NPRM Comment Period End	09/07/99	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF41**223. NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REGULATIONS FOR THE 1998 AND SUCCEEDING CROP YEARS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1437**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/09/99	64 FR 17271
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	06/08/99	

Final Action To Be Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF46**224. AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS REGARDING SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT FROM COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION PROGRAMS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1407**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/30/98	63 FR 71796
NPRM Comment Period End	01/29/99	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Tom Witzig

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RIN: 0560-AF47**225. 1999-CROP PEANUTS NATIONAL POUNDAGE QUOTA, NATIONAL AVERAGE LOAN RATES AND MINIMUM EXPORT-EDIBLE SALES PRICE FOR ADDITIONAL PEANUTS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 729; 7 CFR 1446; 7 CFR 1421**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/25/98	63 FR 65133

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	12/08/98	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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RIN: 0560-AF48

226. 1999-CROP MARKETING QUOTA AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVEL FOR FLUE-CURED TOBACCO

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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RIN: 0560-AF49

227. 1999-CROP MARKETING QUOTA AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVEL FOR BURLEY TOBACCO

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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RIN: 0560-AF50

228. REMOVE INTERNAL AGENCY PROVISION FROM FSA FARM CREDIT PROGRAM REGULATION—LIQUIDATION OF LOANS SECURED BY REAL ESTATE AND ACQUISITION OF REAL AND CHATTEL PROPERTY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1955

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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RIN: 0560-AF53

229. DEBT SETTLEMENT OF THE FARM LOAN PROGRAM'S NONPROGRAM LOANS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1956

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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RIN: 0560-AF54

230. CLEANING AND REINSPECTION OF FARMERS' STOCK PEANUTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1446

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/05/98	63 FR 41711
NPRM Comment Period End	09/04/98	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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RIN: 0560-AF56

231. DISASTER SET-ASIDE PROGRAM SECOND INSTALLMENT

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	01/05/99	64 FR 392
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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RIN: 0560-AF59

232. REGULATORY STREAMLINING OF THE FARM SERVICE AGENCY'S DIRECT FARM LOAN PROGRAMS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR ch 7; 7 CFR ch 18

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/01	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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RIN: 0560-AF60

233. AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PEANUT POUNDAGE QUOTA AND PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 714; 7 CFR 729; 7 CFR 1446

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig

USDA—FSA

Long-Term Actions

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 RIN: 0560-AF61

234. ACCELERATED PRODUCTION FLEXIBILITY CONTRACT PAYMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1412

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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 RIN: 0560-AF65

235. NONRECOURSE MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS FOR CRAMBE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1421

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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 RIN: 0560-AF68

236. STREAMLINING OF REGULATIONS FOR REAL ESTATE APPRAISALS AND CHATTEL APPRAISALS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 761; 7 CFR 1922

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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 RIN: 0560-AF69

237. SMALL HOG OPERATION PAYMENT PLAN

Priority: Other Significant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 761

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	02/10/99	64 FR 6495
Interim Final Rule	08/30/99	64 FR 47097
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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 RIN: 0560-AF70

238. LOW DOCUMENTATION LOAN

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1910; 7 CFR 1941
Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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 RIN: 0560-AF71

239. MODIFICATION OF COLLATERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EMERGENCY LOANS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1945

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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 RIN: 0560-AF72

240. • MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOAN PROVISIONS FOR THE 1998 AND SUBSEQUENT CROP YEARS

Priority: Economically Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 7231

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1421

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will provide for nonrecourse loans and loan deficiency payments on commodities harvested as other than grain; i.e., silage, ensilage, ground grain, hay, cobbage, cracked, rolled, or crimped, and on commodities that are below the warehouse-stored loan standards. It will also amend the commodity loan and loan deficiency payment program regulations as follows: 1) Amend the definition for high moisture commodities; 2) amend policy on contaminated commodities; 3) clarify when county committees may waive administrative actions on a violation; 4) clarify when sales proceeds are applied to the amount owed CCC by the producer when the commodity is sold by CCC in settlement of the loan; 5) clarify when a loan deficiency payment application is considered a completed request; 6) provide for acceptance of fax signatures on loan deficiency payment applications; 7) amend production evidence requirements; and 8) make other minor technical adjustments. The changes in commodity eligibility will provide greater coverage of commodities eligible for loan or loan deficiency payments. Expected outlays are estimated to be between \$160 million and \$260 million.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Chief, Regulatory Review and Foreign Investment Disclosure Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Room 6734-S, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
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RIN: 0560-AF76

241. • AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM REGULATIONS REGARDING LOAN ELIGIBILITY

Priority: Other Significant
Legal Authority: 16 USC 3801 - 3847
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1410
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The purpose of the CRP is to assist farmers and ranchers in conserving soil, water and wildlife resources by converting highly erodible and other environmentally sensitive acreage to long-term, resource-conserving cover. The authorizing statute permits farmers and ranchers to enroll "cropland" and "marginal pastureland" into the CRP, but does not define those terms. Current CRP regulations limit cropland enrollment to lands where crops have been produced by annual tilling of the soil, plus sugar cane or other multi-year grasses and legumes, in two out of the most recent five cropping seasons. This definition precludes certain lands with high environmental values from being considered for enrollment in the program. The proposed rule would expand the definition of eligible land to permit orchards, vineyards, and certain other agricultural lands to be considered for enrollment in the CRP. The overall cost of the CRP is not expected to increase; in fact costs could decrease as a result of increased competition among a larger land base for enrollment into the CRP, which is limited by statute to 36.4 million acres.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Small Entities Affected: No
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Chief, Regulatory Review and Foreign Investment Disclosure Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Room 6734-S, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
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RIN: 0560-AF77

242. • SERVICING SHARED APPRECIATION AGREEMENTS

Priority: Other Significant
Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1951
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is amending the Shared Appreciation Agreement (SAA) and the servicing of SAAs. The SAA insures that FSA shares in any appreciation of real estate security when a farm borrower has received forgiveness on a portion of their FSA debt. The amount due can be paid in full or amortized when the SAA matures or is triggered during the term of the agreement. The changes will allow some capital improvements made during the term of the SAA to be deducted from recapture, institute a short three-year deferral period if needed to create a positive cash flow when amortizing the recapture amount, and change the maturity period of future SAAs from 10 years to 5 years. These changes will give borrowers who have received debt forgiveness the best opportunity of repaying FSA a portion of the debt that was written off without FSA being required to monitor the agreement for the full 10 years. This should also encourage some improvement of Agency collateral during the term covered by the SAA. This rule will not increase losses for the Agency.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Chief, Regulatory Review and Foreign Investment Disclosure Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Room 6734-S, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
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RIN: 0560-AF78

243. • PRODUCTION FLEXIBILITY CONTRACTS FOR WHEAT, FEED GRAINS, RICE, AND UPLAND COTTON

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: 7 USC 7211 et seq.
CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1412.401
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is requesting comments regarding the appropriateness of the current method of calculating Production Flexibility Contract (PFC) payment reductions resulting from planting violations. Comments will be requested on (1) the appropriateness of the current method of calculating PFC payments reductions as a result of fruit or vegetable planting violations, (2) alternative methods for calculating the payment reductions, (3) retroactivity of any change in the method, and (4) the effect of a change on PFC's that have been terminated, or for which contract acreage was reduced, because of the current method of calculation. This action is not expected to have any significant cost.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	05/05/99	64 FR 24091
ANPRM Comment Period End	06/02/99	
Second ANPRM	06/25/99	64 FR 34154
Second ANPRM Comment Period End	07/23/99	
NPRM	To Be	Determined
Final Action	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Chief, Regulatory Review and Foreign Investment Disclosure Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Room 6734-S, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
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RIN: 0560-AF79

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Completed Actions

244. AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS FOR COTTON WAREHOUSES UNDER THE UNITED STATES WAREHOUSE ACT—ELECTRONIC BLOCK WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS, INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS, AND OTHER PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 735

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/07/99	64 FR 54508

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AE60

245. 1998-CROP MARKETING QUOTAS AND PRICE SUPPORT LEVELS FOR EIGHT KINDS OF TOBACCO

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 723; 7 CFR 1464

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/31/99	64 FR 15290

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF20

246. LENDER BUYBACK OF REPURCHASED GUARANTEED LOANS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980 subpart B

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/12/99	64 FR 7358

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF21

247. REVISION OF FSA-GUARANTEED LOAN REGULATIONS—INTEREST SUBSIDY FOR GUARANTEED BORROWERS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/12/99	64 FR 7358

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig
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RIN: 0560-AF35

248. END-USE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 782

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/16/99	64 FR 12884

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF64

249. DAIRY INDEMNITY PAYMENT PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 760

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/13/99	64 FR 17492

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF66

250. DAIRY MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1430

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/10/99	64 FR 24933

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0560-AF67

251. • CROP LOSS DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 105-277

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 14777

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: 1998 Crop Loss Disaster Assistance will provide monetary assistance to eligible producers for crop losses from natural disasters in 1998 or in at least 3 of the past 5 years. This action is needed to authorize the program in accordance with The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999. \$2.375 billion was appropriated.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/15/99	64 FR 18553

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Chief, Regulatory Review and Foreign Investment Disclosure Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Room 6734-S, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
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RIN: 0560-AF75

USDA—FSA

Completed Actions

252. • 1998-CROP PEANUTS NATIONAL POUNDAGE QUOTA, NATIONAL AVERAGE PRICE SUPPORT LEVEL FOR QUOTA AND ADDITIONAL PEANUTS, AND MINIMUM CCC EXPORT-EDIBLE SALES PRICE FOR ADDITIONAL PEANUTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1358-1

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 729; 7 CFR 1446

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, December 15, 1997, Quota Announcement.

Abstract: The objective of the peanut quota is to balance supply with demand at a level that will assure stable supplies for domestic use and assure producers a stable income. This action is required by statute, which provides a formula for computing the national quota, based on the Secretary's estimate of the amount of peanuts

required for domestic food and related uses for the 1998 marketing year. The 1998 marketing year is from August 1, 1998, through July 31, 1999.

The action is also needed to implement the peanut price support program, as required by statute. The price support levels provide a domestic price floor for quota and additional peanuts and a minimum export-edible sales price for additional peanuts. The Peanut Program, which includes the poundage quota, price support, and export policies, will result in gross outlays of \$22 million, which are expected to be offset by repayments and assessments in FY 1998 and subsequent years, for a net cost of 0.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	08/18/97	62 FR 43955
ANPRM Comment Period End	09/30/97	

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/02/97	62 FR 63678
NPRM Comment Period End	12/09/97	
Quota Announcement	12/14/97	
Final Action	09/09/99	64 FR 48938

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tom Witzig, Chief, Regulatory Review and Foreign Investment Disclosure Branch, Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Room 6734-S, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 205-5851
Fax: 202 720-5233
Email: tom__witzig@wdc.fsa.usda.gov

RIN: 0560-AF81

BILLING CODE 3410-05-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Prerule Stage

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

253. NOXIOUS WEEDS; WEED CATEGORIES AND PRIORITIES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2803; 7 USC 2809

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 360

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We are soliciting public input on the manner in which Federal noxious weeds are characterized and categorized. Specifically, we are seeking public comment on a categorization scheme for noxious

weeds that would provide for varying levels of response to weeds based on their pest risk potential. The information gathered through this advance notice of proposed rulemaking will be used by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service as we consider regulatory changes and weigh alternative approaches to addressing the problem of noxious weeds.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	02/00/00	

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Polly Lehtonen, Botanist, BATS, PPQ, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 133, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1228
Phone: 301 734-8896

RIN: 0579-AB07

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

254. PLANT PEST REGULATIONS; UPDATE OF CURRENT PROVISIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 149; 7 USC 150bb; 7 USC 150dd; 7 USC 150ee; 7 USC 150ff; 7 USC 154; 7 USC 159; 7

USC 160; 7 USC 162; 7 USC 2260; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a; 31 USC 9701

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 330

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: APHIS is undertaking rulemaking to amend its plant pest regulations by: (1) Setting out the criteria that will be used by APHIS when considering whether an organism is a plant pest; (2) adding a permit category for organisms that would be released into the environment for

purposes such as the biological control of weeds; (3) establishing a notification system that could be used in place of permits for the importation and interstate movement of certain low-risk organisms; and (4) revising or amending existing portions of the regulations to clarify or update requirements, eliminate redundancy, and make the regulations easier for the public to use. This action will serve as a follow-up to the advance notice of proposed rulemaking that APHIS

USDA—APHIS

Proposed Rule Stage

published in the Federal Register on September 27, 1996, to solicit input on the need for regulatory changes and alternative methods of addressing plant pest risk.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/27/96	61 FR 50767
ANPRM Comment Period End	12/26/96	
NPRM	04/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Robert Flanders, Regulatory Coordination Specialist, Regulatory Coordination Staff, PPQ, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 141, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1228

Phone: 301 734-5930

Email: robert.v.flanders@usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA80

255. KARNAL BUNT

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 147a; 7 USC 161 to 162; 7 USC 164 to 167; 7 USC 150bb; 7 USC 150dd to 150ff

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 301

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Karnal bunt is a fungal disease of wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), durum wheat (*Triticum durum*), and triticale (*Triticum aestivum* x *Secale cereale*), a hybrid of wheat and rye. In the absence of measures taken by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the establishment of Karnal bunt in the United States would have significant consequences with regard to the export of wheat to international markets. Prior to March 8, 1996, Karnal bunt was not known to exist in the United States. Since March 8, 1996, Karnal bunt has been detected within several States. In response, we have established regulations that define regulated areas in certain States because of Karnal bunt, restrict the movement of certain articles from the regulated areas to prevent the spread of Karnal bunt, and provide compensation for certain growers, handlers, and other individuals in the regulated areas to mitigate losses and expenses incurred

because of actions taken by the Secretary to prevent the spread of Karnal bunt. As part of a continuing Karnal bunt program, we anticipate that the regulations concerning regulated areas, movement restrictions, and compensation will be revised as more is known about the Karnal bunt situation in the United States.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/05/96	61 FR 35102
NPRM	08/02/96	61 FR 40354
NPRM Comment Period End	09/03/96	
Final Rule Classifying Regulated Areas, Movement of Regulated Articles	10/04/96	61 FR 52190
Interim Final Rule Change Classification of Regulated Areas	05/01/97	62 FR 23620
Final Rule Compensation for 1995-96 Crop Season	05/06/97	62 FR 24746
NPRM Compensation for 1996-97 Crop Season	07/11/97	62 FR 37159
NPRM Compensation for Wheat Seed and Straw, 1995-96 Crop Season	07/30/97	62 FR 40756
Interim Final Rule Additions to Regulated Areas	11/24/97	62 FR 62504
Interim Final Rule Approved Treatments	12/05/97	62 FR 64263
Final Rule Compensation for Wheat Seed and Straw, 1995-96 Crop Season	01/09/98	63 FR 1321
NPRM Movement from Regulated Areas	01/28/98	63 FR 4198
Final Rule Compensation for 1996-97 Crop Season	06/10/98	63 FR 31593
AIR as Final Rule Approved Treatments	09/04/98	63 FR 47127
Final Rule Movement from Regulated Areas	09/23/98	63 FR 50747
NPRM Compensation for the 1997-98 Crop Season	12/17/98	63 FR 69563
NPRM Reclassification of Regulated Areas	03/09/99	64 FR 11392

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Reclassification of Regulated Areas Comment Period End	04/08/99	
Final Rule Reclassification of Regulated Areas	05/04/99	64 FR 23749
Final Rule Change Classification of Regulated Areas	06/02/99	64 FR 29541
Final Rule Compensation for the 1997-98 Crop Season	06/25/99	64 FR 34109
NPRM Compensation Policy (Projected)	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Stephen Poe, Operations Officer, Domestic and Emergency Operations, PPQ, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 134, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1228

Phone: 301 734-8247

Email: stephen.r.poe@usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA83

256. VETERINARY SERVICES MULTI-YEAR USER FEES

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 5542; 7 USC 1622; 19 USC 1306; 21 USC 102 to 105; 21 USC 111; 21 USC 114 to 114a; 21 USC 134a to 134d; 21 USC 134f; 21 USC 135; 21 USC 136 to 136a

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 130

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action would adjust the user fees charged for veterinary services we provide for import and export related activities for fiscal years 1998 through 2003. Costs to operate the Veterinary Services import-export program increase slightly from year to year due to increase in employee costs (i.e., cost of living, etc.) and changes in other operational costs. We have determined that the fees must be adjusted to reflect the anticipated cost of providing these services through fiscal year 2003.

USDA—APHIS

Proposed Rule Stage

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/30/99	64 FR 52680
NPRM Comment Period End	11/29/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:**

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Donna Ford, Section Head, M&B, Budget and Accounting Division, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 54, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737
Phone: 301 734-5785

Louise Lothery, Director, VS, Resource Management Support Staff, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 44, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737
Phone: 301 734-7517

RIN: 0579-AA87**257. INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF SHEEP AND GOATS FROM STATES THAT DO NOT QUARANTINE SCRAPIE-INFECTED AND SOURCE FLOCKS****Priority:** Other Significant

Legal Authority: 21 USC 111 to 114; 21 USC 114a; 21 USC 115; 21 USC 117; 21 USC 120 to 121; 21 USC 123 to 126; 21 USC 134a to 134h

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 54; 9 CFR 79**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: After soliciting public comment to help us develop options for potential changes to our regulations for the interstate movement of sheep and goats, we believe changes are necessary to improve control and limit the spread of scrapie, a serious disease of sheep and goats. We are undertaking rulemaking to correlate Federal interstate movement restrictions with the effectiveness of individual State scrapie programs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	01/26/98	63 FR 3671
ANPRM Comment Period End	03/27/98	
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:**

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Diane Sutton, Senior Staff Veterinarian, VS, National Animal Health Programs, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231
Phone: 301 734-7716

RIN: 0579-AA90**258. IRRADIATION PHYTOSANITARY TREATMENT OF IMPORTED FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES****Priority:** Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 150dd to 150ff; 7 USC 151 to 167; 7 USC 450; 7 USC 2803; 7 USC 2809; 21 USC 136 to 136a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 305; 7 CFR 319.56**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rulemaking would establish irradiation as a new treatment alternative for the importation of certain fresh fruits and vegetables. Irradiation would be allowed as an alternative to mitigation measures that are required to control certain species of fruit flies in a variety of imported fruits and vegetables. If this proposal is adopted, importers of certain fruits and vegetables will have an additional alternative to the currently approved treatments, such as fumigation and cold treatment, for treating their articles. No net societal gains and losses other than small price-related changes are expected from this proposed rule change.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Policy Statement for Irradiation Treatment of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	05/15/98	63 FR 24433
NPRM	06/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Donna L. West, Import Specialist, PIMT, PPQ, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 140, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236
Phone: 301 734-6653

RIN: 0579-AA97**259. IMPORTATION OF SOLID WOOD PACKING MATERIAL**

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 2 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0579-AA99**260. HORSE PROTECTION; HORSE INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS**

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 15 USC 1823 to 1825; 15 USC 1828; 44 USC 3506

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 11**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This action would amend the horse protection regulations as follows: To require that horse industry organizations (HIO) officers meet standards of conduct similar to those required for a designated qualified person (DQP); to require that HIOs submit horse show schedules to APHIS at least 30 days prior to a show; to require APHIS approval of those portions of HIO rule books relevant to the Horse Protection Act; to require that HIO rule books define what constitutes a conflict of interest for HIO officers and DQPs; and to require that each HIO annually submit to APHIS a financial statement or otherwise demonstrate financial solvency.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:**

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Richard Watkins, Initiative Coordinator, Animal Care, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 84, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
Phone: 301 734-4981

RIN: 0579-AB04**261. USER FEES—RATE REVISIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL QUARANTINE AND INSPECTION SERVICE**

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2260; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a; 40 USC 1741

USDA—APHIS

Proposed Rule Stage

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 354.3**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This action would amend agricultural quarantine inspection service (AQI) international air passenger, commercial aircraft, commercial vessel, commercial truck, and commercial railroad car user fees to properly recover the cost of providing these services.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/09/99	64 FR 43103
NPRM Comment Period End	10/08/99	
Final Rule	11/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Donna Ford, Section Head, M&B, Budget and Accounting Division, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 54, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737
Phone: 301 734-5785

RIN: 0579-AB05

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

262. ANIMAL WELFARE—STANDARDS FOR MARINE MAMMALS**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 2131 to 2159**CFR Citation:** 9 CFR 3**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Department regulates the treatment of certain marine mammals under the Animal Welfare Act. The present standards for treatment of these animals have been in effect for over 10 years. During this time, advances have been made and new information has been developed with regard to the housing and care of marine mammals. The Department has conducted negotiated rulemaking (Reg Neg) and published changes to the regulations based on the consensus reached by the negotiated rulemaking committee. In addition to identifying regulatory provisions for revision based on negotiated rulemaking, the Department is conducting separate rulemaking to establish standards governing "swim with the dolphins" (SWTD) programs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	07/23/93	58 FR 39458
ANPRM Comment Period End	10/06/93	
NPRM	01/23/95	60 FR 4383
NPRM Comment Period End	02/22/95	
NPRM Comment Period Extended Swim with the Dolphins (SWTD)	02/28/95	60 FR 10810
NPRM Comment Period Extended (SWTD)	03/09/95	60 FR 12908
NPRM Comment Period Extended (SWTD)	03/24/95	60 FR 15524

Action	Date	FR Cite
Notice, Establish a Committee (Reg Neg)	05/22/95	60 FR 27049
Correction (Reg Neg)	06/02/95	60 FR 28834
Final Rule Animal Welfare; Marine Mammals, Swim with the Dolphins	09/04/98	63 FR 47128
Applicability of Regulations	10/14/98	63 FR 55012
NPRM Animal Welfare; Marine Mammals	02/23/99	64 FR 8735
Suspension of Enforcement of September 1998 SWTD Final Rule	04/02/99	64 FR 15918
Suspension of Enforcement of September 1998 SWTD Final Rule Effective	04/02/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/26/99	
Suspension of Enforcement of September 1998 SWTD Final Rule Comment Period End	06/01/99	
Final Rule Animal Welfare; Marine Mammals (Projected)	05/00/00	
NPRM Swim with the Dolphins	06/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Dr. Barbara Kohn, Veterinary Medical Officer, Animal Care, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 84, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
Phone: 301 734-7833

RIN: 0579-AA59

263. IMPORTATION OF LOGS, LUMBER, AND OTHER UNMANUFACTURED WOOD ARTICLES**Priority:** Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 150dd; 7 USC 150ee; 7 USC 150ff; 7 USC 151 to 167; 7 USC 450; 7 USC 2803; 7 USC 2809; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 319**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule would amend the importation options for importing wood chips from Chile. We have determined that a surface pesticide treatment is effective in rendering large shipments of Pinus radiata wood chips from Chile free of plant pests and have approved a surface pesticide treatment for use on Pinus radiata wood chips from Chile. Therefore, this rule would allow the importation of Pinus radiata wood chips from Chile if the surfaces of the wood chips are treated with a pesticide approved by the Administrator. This rule would also allow solid wood packing materials used with nonregulated articles to be imported without an importer document.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/28/98	63 FR 40193
NPRM Comment Period End	09/28/98	
Final Action	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

USDA—APHIS

Final Rule Stage

Agency Contact: Donna L. West, Import Specialist, PIMT, PPQ, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 140, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236
Phone: 301 734-6653

RIN: 0579-AA82

264. IMPORTATION OF GRAPEFRUIT, LEMONS, AND ORANGES FROM ARGENTINA

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 150dd to 150ff; 7 USC 151 to 167; 7 USC 450; 7 USC 2803; 7 USC 2809; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 300; 7 CFR 319.28; 7 CFR 319.56

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: APHIS is conducting rulemaking to amend the citrus fruit regulations by recognizing a citrus-growing area within Argentina as being free from citrus canker. Surveys conducted by Argentine plant health authorities in that area of Argentina since 1992 have shown the area to be free from citrus canker, and Argentine authorities are enforcing restrictions designed to protect the area from the introduction of that disease. This rulemaking would also amend the fruits and vegetables regulations to allow the importation of grapefruit, lemons, and oranges from the citrus canker-free area of Argentina under conditions designed to prevent the introduction into the United States of two other diseases of citrus, sweet orange scab and citrus black spot, and other plant pests. These changes would allow grapefruit, lemons, and oranges to be imported into the United States from Argentina subject to certain conditions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/12/98	63 FR 43117
NPRM Comment Period End	02/11/99	
Final Action	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Mr. Ronald C. Campbell, Director, Trade Management - Western Hemisphere, PPQ, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit

140, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1228
Phone: 301 734-8262
Email: ronald.c.campbell@usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA92

265. RESTRICTIONS ON THE IMPORTATION OF RUMINANTS, MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS FROM RUMINANTS, AND CERTAIN OTHER RUMINANT PRODUCTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 147a; 7 USC 150ee; 7 USC 1622; 19 USC 1306; 21 USC 102 to 105; 21 USC 111; 21 USC 114a; 21 USC 134a to 134d; 21 USC 134f; 21 USC 135 to 136; 21 USC 136a; 31 USC 9701

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 93.404(c); 9 CFR 94.18; 9 CFR 95.4(a); 9 CFR 96.2(b)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action relieves restrictions with regard to BSE on the importation from certain countries of ruminants and meat, meat products, and other edible products of ruminants, and relieves restrictions under certain conditions on the importation of meat from ruminants of the family Cervidae.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/00/99	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Gary Colgrove, Chief Staff Veterinarian, National Center for Import and Export, VS, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 38, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231
Phone: 301 734-8590

RIN: 0579-AA98

266. IMPORTATION OF RHODODENDRON IN GROWING MEDIA

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 150dd to 150ff; 7 USC 151 to 167; 7 USC 450; 7 USC 2803; 7 USC 2809; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 319.37-8

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We are amending our regulations to allow the importation from Europe of rhododendron established in growing media.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/07/93	58 FR 47074
NPRM Comment Period End	12/06/93	
Final Rule on All of 9/7/93 NPRM Except Rhododendron (Effective 2/13/95)	01/13/95	60 FR 3067
NPRM Comment Period Extended - Rhododendron	04/30/98	63 FR 23683
NPRM Comment Period Extended - Rhododendron	06/01/98	63 FR 29675
NPRM Comment Period End - Rhododendron	07/30/98	
Final Rule - Rhododendron	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Wayne Burnett, Import Specialist, PIM, PPQ, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 140, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236
Phone: 301 734-6553

RIN: 0579-AB00

267. COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION OF EQUINES TO SLAUGHTER

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1901 note 1996 Farm Bill

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 88 (New)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action would establish regulations pertaining to the commercial transportation of equines to slaughter. The purpose of these regulations is to establish minimum standards to ensure the humane movement of equines to slaughter via commercial transportation. We are proposing these regulations to fulfill our responsibility under the 1996 Farm Bill to regulate the commercial transportation of equines to slaughter by persons regularly engaged in that activity within the United States.

USDA—APHIS

Final Rule Stage

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/19/99	64 FR 27210
NPRM Comment Period End	07/19/99	
Final Rule	05/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Dr. Timothy R. Cordes, Senior Staff Veterinarian, National Animal Health Programs, VS, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 43, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231

Phone: 301 734-3279

Email: timothy.r.cordes@usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AB06

268. • IMPORTATION OF GYPSY MOTH HOST MATERIAL FROM CANADA**Priority:** Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 150dd; 7 USC 150ee; 7 USC 150ff; 7 USC 151 to 167; 7 USC 450; 7 USC 2803; 7 USC 2809; 21 USC 136; 21 USC 136a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 301; 7 CFR 319

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We are establishing regulations for the importation into the United States of gypsy moth host materials from Canada due to infestations of gypsy moth in the Provinces of British Columbia, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and Quebec. These regulations require trees without roots (e.g., Christmas trees), trees with roots, shrubs with roots and persistent woody stems, logs and pulpwood with bark attached, outdoor household articles, and mobile homes and their associated equipment to meet specified certification or destination requirements if they are intended to be

moved into or through areas of the United States that are not infested with gypsy moth. This action is necessary on an emergency basis to prevent the introduction of gypsy moth into the noninfested areas of the United States.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Rule	08/23/99	
Interim Final Rule Effective	08/23/99	
Interim Rule Comment Period End	10/22/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Ms. Coanne O'Hern, Operations Officer, Domestic and Emergency Programs, PPQ, Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Unit 134, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236

Phone: 301 734-8247

RIN: 0579-AB11

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

269. IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN EMBRYOS AND ANIMAL SEMEN**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 98

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	07/08/93	58 FR 36625
ANPRM Comment Period End	09/07/93	
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Roger Perkins
Phone: 301 734-8419
Email: roger.w.perkins@usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA63

270. IMPORTATION OF PORK AND PORK PRODUCTS FROM YUCATAN AND SONORA, MEXICO**Priority:** Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 94

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/23/99	64 FR 8755
NPRM Comment Period End	04/26/99	
Final Rule	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Governmental Jurisdictions

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: John Cougill
Phone: 301 734-3399
Email: john.w.cougill@usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA91

271. IMPORTATION OF FUJI APPLES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**Priority:** Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 319

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Donna L. West
Phone: 301 734-6653

RIN: 0579-AA93

272. ANIMAL WELFARE; INSPECTION, LICENSING, AND PROCUREMENT OF ANIMALS**Priority:** Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 1 and 2

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Bettye K. Walters
Phone: 301 734-8100
Email: bettye.k.walters@usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AA94

USDA—APHIS

Long-Term Actions

273. IMPORTATION OF POULTRY FROM SINALOA AND SONORA, MEXICO

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 94.22

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/21/99	64 FR 27711
NPRM Comment Period End	07/20/99	
Final Rule	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Michael David
Phone: 301 734-5034

RIN: 0579-AA96

274. REQUIRING TREATMENT OF SOLID WOOD PACKING MATERIAL FROM CHINA

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 319.40

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	09/18/98	63 FR 50100
Interim Final Rule	12/17/98	63 FR 69539
Interim Final Rule Effective	12/17/98	
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	02/16/99	

Next Action Undetermined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert Flanders
Phone: 301 734-5930
Email: robert.v.flanders@usda.gov

RIN: 0579-AB01

275. IMPORTATION OF UNMANUFACTURED WOOD ARTICLES FROM MEXICO

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 319.40

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/11/99	64 FR 31512
NPRM Comment Period End	08/10/99	
Final Rule	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jane E. Levy
Phone: 301 734-8295

RIN: 0579-AB02

276. ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION FOR HOG CHOLERA, FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE, AND SWINE VESICULAR DISEASE

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 92; 9 CFR 94; 9 CFR 98

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/25/99	64 FR 34155
NPRM Comment Period End	08/24/99	
Final Rule	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary Colgrove
Phone: 301 734-8590

RIN: 0579-AB03

277. NOXIOUS WEEDS; RESTRICTIONS ON INTERSTATE MOVEMENT

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 360.300

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/29/99	64 FR 41007
Interim Final Rule Effective	07/29/99	
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	09/27/99	

Next Action Undetermined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Randy Westbrooks
Phone: 910 648-6762

RIN: 0579-AB08

278. AQUACULTURE; FARM-RAISED FIN FISH

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: Not Yet Determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	05/04/99	64 FR 23795
ANPRM Comment Period End	07/06/99	

Next Action Undetermined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Otis Miller
Phone: 301 734-7679

RIN: 0579-AB09

279. PSEUDORABIES IN SWINE; PAYMENT OF INDEMNITY

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 52

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	01/12/99	64 FR 2545
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	04/16/99	

Next Action Undetermined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Keith A. Hand
Phone: 301 734-8073

RIN: 0579-AB10

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Completed Actions

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

280. IMPORTATION OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 319.56**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	09/15/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Jane E. Levy

Phone: 301 734-8295

RIN: 0579-AA58**281. LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR DOGS AND CATS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 9 CFR 1; 9 CFR 3; 9 CFR 2**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Decision and Policy Statement	07/19/99	64 FR 38546

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Bettye K. Walters
Phone: 301 734-8100
Email: bettye.k.walters@usda.gov**RIN:** 0579-AA95**BILLING CODE** 3410-34-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)

282. HIGHER EDUCATION MULTICULTURAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM; ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 3152(b)(5); PL 103-111; PL 103-330; PL 104-37; PL 104-180**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 3409**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** Regulations will establish the procedures to be followed annually in the solicitation of proposals, the evaluation of such proposals, and the award of project grants under the Multicultural Scholars Program.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Phillip A. Carter, Policy Advisor, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research Service, MS 2299, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-2299

Phone: 202 720-9181

Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA09**283. HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 3241**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 3412**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** Regulation will establish the procedures to be followed annually in the solicitation of proposals, the evaluation of such proposals, and the award of project grants under the Hispanic Education Partnership Grants Program.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Phillip A. Carter, Policy Advisor, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research Service, MS 2299, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-2299

Phone: 202 720-9181

Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA17**284. COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 2034**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 3416**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This regulation proposes to establish administrative provisions for the Community Food Projects to institute procedures to be followed in preparing proposals, to outline requirements which grant recipients must meet, to provide instructions on how to apply for a grant, and to provide general information about post-award administration of grants under the program.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/00	
Interim Final Rule	04/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Phillip A. Carter, Policy Advisor, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research Service, MS 2299, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-2299

Phone: 202 720-9181

Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA19**285. SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 15 USC 638

USDA—CSREES

Proposed Rule Stage

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3403**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service (CSREES) proposes to modify the Small Business Innovation Research Program Administrative Provisions by changing the language of when a Phase I awardee is eligible to apply for a Phase II award. Currently a Phase I awardee may apply for a Phase II award in the next fiscal year funding cycle or the second fiscal year funding cycle. CSREES intends to revise this language to allow Phase I awardees to apply in either of the two fiscal years following the end of the initial project period; this does not include any no-cost extensions of time. This revision will allow an 18-month Phase I awardee the same privileges as that of a 6-month Phase I awardee. Privileges as used herein refers to the opportunity for a no-cost extension of time, if necessary, and two options of when a Phase I awardee may apply for a Phase II award.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	
Final Action	06/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Phillip A. Carter, Policy Advisor, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research Service, MS 2299, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-2299

Phone: 202 720-9181

Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA20

286. BIOTECHNOLOGY RISK ASSESSMENT RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 5921; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3415

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) proposes to revise and modify the Biotechnology Risk Assessment Research Grants Program Administrative Provisions. The revision and modification updates 7 CFR part 3415 to delete references to the Office of Agricultural Biotechnology and the Agricultural Biotechnology Research Advisory Committee clarifying the requirements for the pre-proposals, clarifying what is to be included in the 15-page limit on proposals, and revising the language regarding conflicts of interests (3415.12).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Phillip A. Carter, Policy Advisor, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research Service, MS 2299, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-2299

Phone: 202 720-9181

Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA21

287. NATIONAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS**Priority:** Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 450i(b)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3411

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) proposes to revise and modify the National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program administrative provisions. The revision and modification will update 7 CFR 3411 to reflect changes in the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-185), and to comply with a recent OIG audit. Specifically, the equipment grant eligibility requirements need to be revised, along with other administrative changes. In addition, CSREES plans to comply with the proposed plain language requirements set out in the Presidential Memo dated June 1, 1998.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	
Final Action	05/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Phillip A. Carter, Policy Advisor, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research Service, MS 2299, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-2299

Phone: 202 720-9181

Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA22

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)

288. STAKEHOLDER INPUT TO RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION FORMULA FUNDS**Priority:** Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 7612(c)(2); 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3418

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service proposes a rule to implement section 102(c) of the Agricultural

Research Extension and Education Reform Act of 1998 (AREERA) and 7 U.S.C. 7612(c), which requires 1862 land-grant institutions, 1890 land-grant institutions, and 1994 land-grant institutions that receive agricultural research extension or education

USDA—CSREES

Final Rule Stage

formula funds to establish a process for stakeholder input on the uses of such funds.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/14/99	64 FR 18533
NPRM Comment Period End	05/14/99	
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Phillip A. Carter, Policy Advisor, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research Service, MS 2299, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-2299
Phone: 202 720-9181
Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA23

289. MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT FOR FORMULA FUNDS FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES AT 1890 LAND GRANT INSTITUTIONS AND TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 3222(d)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3419

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) proposes a rule to implement section 226 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (AREERA) (7 U.S.C. 7612(c)) which amends subtitle G of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NARETPA). This section requires matching funds from non-Federal sources for formula funds authorized under sections 1444 and 1445 of NARETPA for agricultural research and

extension activities at the 1890 land-grant institutions and Tuskegee University.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/09/99	64 FR 42575
NPRM Comment Period End	09/03/99	
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Phillip A. Carter, Policy Advisor, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research Service, MS 2299, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-2299
Phone: 202 720-9181
Email: pcarter@reeusda.gov

RIN: 0524-AA24

BILLING CODE 3410-22-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Housing Service (RHS)

Proposed Rule Stage

290. CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS—1901-E TO 1940-D

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 100-259; EO 12898; PL 88-352; 42 USC 2000d et seq; PL 90-284; 42 USC 3601 to 3619; PL 100-430; PL 92-318; 20 USC 1681 et seq; PL 93-112; 29 USC 794; PL 94-135; 42 USC 6101 et seq; PL 94-239; 15 USC 1601 et seq; EO 11246

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 15; 12 CFR 202; 28 CFR 42; 45 CFR 90; 41 CFR 60 to 64; 24 CFR 14; 7 CFR 1940 subpart D; 7 CFR 1901 subpart E

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This ruling will effectuate a comprehensive civil rights regulation implementing the following laws: The Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA); title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 (The Fair Housing Act); section 504 Federally Conducted and Federally Assisted Programs; title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Age Discrimination Act of 1975; and Executive Orders 11246 and 12898

(Environmental Justice). The revised regulations will provide detailed guidelines for field offices for improved enforcement and compliance with these laws which heavily impact the Agency's programs. Mechanisms for monitoring compliance by field offices and recipients of Federal financial assistance at all levels will decrease the Agency's vulnerability that exist due to noncompliance with recently enacted Civil Rights legislation.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is a paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Carlton L. Lewis, Chief, Program Compliance Branch,

Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, MS 0703, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 692-0097
Fax: 202 692-0107

RIN: 0575-AA83

291. SERVICING COMMUNITY PROGRAMS LOANS AND GRANTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 31 USC 3711; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3570 subpart E; 7 CFR 1951 subpart E; 7 CFR 1951 subpart O; 7 CFR 1955 subpart A; 7 CFR 1955 subpart B; 7 CFR 1955 subpart C; 7 CFR 1956 subpart C; 7 CFR 1951 subpart F

Legal Deadline: None

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Abstract: The Agency is combining seven regulations affecting the servicing of Community Program loans and grants into one regulation. Justification: This is part of the Reinventing Government Initiative. There are no policy or procedural changes. The published regulation will be simplified by removing the administrative portion and will only contain the information affecting the public.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Beth Jones, Loan Specialist, Community Programs Division, Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, Room 0183/Stop 0787, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1498
Email: epjones@rdasun2.rurdev.usda.gov

RIN: 0575-AC12

292. MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING REINVENTION

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1475; 42 USC 1479; 42 USC 1480; 42 USC 1481; 42 USC 1484; 42 USC 1485; 42 USC 1486; 42 USC 1490a

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1806 subpart A; 7 CFR 1930 subpart C; 7 CFR 1944 subpart D; 7 CFR 1944 subpart E; 7 CFR 1951 subpart C; 7 CFR 1951 subpart D; 7 CFR 1951 subpart K; 7 CFR 1951 subpart N; 7 CFR 1955 subpart A; 7 CFR 1955 subpart B; 7 CFR 1955 subpart C; 7 CFR 1956 subpart B; 7 CFR 1965 subpart B; 7 CFR 1965 subpart E

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Reinvention of the Rural Housing Service's Multi-Family Housing Programs will consolidate regulations pertaining to section 515 Rural Rental Housing, section 514 Farm Labor Housing Loans, section 516 Farm Labor Housing Grants, and section 521 Rental Assistance Payments. Fourteen

published regulations will be reduced to one regulation and handbooks for program administration. This will simplify loan origination and portfolio management for applicants, borrowers, and housing operators as well as Rural Development field staff. This will also provide flexibility for program modifications to reflect current and foreseeable changes. It will also reduce regulations that address solely internal agency program administration. Finally, the regulation will be more customer friendly and responsive to the needs of the public.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Joyce Allen, Special Assistant to Deputy Administrator, Multi-Family Housing Processing Div., Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 690-4499
Email: jallen@rdmail.rural.usda.gov

RIN: 0575-AC13

293. GUARANTEED RURAL HOUSING LOAN SINGLE FAMILY

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, Local or Tribal Governments.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3555; 7 CFR 1980 subpart D

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Housing Service is revising the regulation for the Guaranteed Rural Housing (GRH) program in order to increase the number of rural households that are able to make homeownership a reality, strengthen internal controls of the program, streamline and "reinvent" the regulation by making it clearer and more concise, and improve performance by lenders and servicers.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: David Villano, Deputy Administrator, Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, Room 5013/Stop 0780, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0780
Phone: 202 720-5177
Fax: 202 690-3025
Email: david.villano@usda.gov

RIN: 0575-AC18

294. • SELF-HELP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301; 42 U.S.C. 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR Part 1944; 7 CFR Part 3551

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The regulations for 7 CFR 1944-I, "Self-Help Technical Assistance Grants," is being rewritten and renumbered to 7 CFR 3551. Changes are proposed for clarification of policy and procedures relative to the: 1) application procedure which is changing to an annual competitive grant process; 2) labor contribution of participating families; 3) monitoring of grantee progress through Self-Help Automated Reporting and Evaluation System (SHARES), and; 4) define the roles of Technical and Management Assistance Contractors.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is a

USDA—RHS

Proposed Rule Stage

paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Lucia A. McKinney, Senior Loan Specialist, Department of

Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, Room 2209/Stop 0783, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0783
Phone: 202 720-1457

Fax: 202 720-2232

Email:

lmckinne@rdasun2.rurdev.usda.gov

RIN: 0575-AC20

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Rural Housing Service (RHS)

Final Rule Stage

295. DENYING CREDIT TO APPLICANTS DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1942 subpart C; 7 CFR 1944 subpart E; 7 CFR 1948 subpart B; 7 CFR 1951 subpart E; 7 CFR 1942 subpart A; 7 CFR 1942 subpart G; 7 CFR 1944 subpart D; 7 CFR 1980 subpart E; 7 CFR 1980 subpart I

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: OMB Circular A-129 dated November 25, 1988, recommends that the processing of applications for Federal direct loans be suspended and requires private lenders to suspend processing of loan guarantee applications when an applicant is found to be delinquent on a Federal debt. The Federal Debt Collections Procedures Act of 1990 also requires that credit be denied if an outstanding judgment lien obtained by the United States in a Federal Court (other than the United States Tax Court), which has been recorded, is found.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/04/94	59 FR 23018
NPRM Comment Period End	07/05/94	
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Federal, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sherie Hinton Henry, Director, Financial Management Division, Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, MS 0707, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 692-0080

RIN: 0575-AA66

296. REENGINEERING AND REINVENTION OF THE DIRECT SECTION 502 AND 504 SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSING PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 31 USC 3700

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1806; 7 CFR 1900; 7 CFR 1944; 7 CFR 1951; 7 CFR 1955; 7 CFR 1956; 7 CFR 1965; 7 CFR 3550

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Rural Housing Service (RHS) has purchased a state-of-the-art dedicated loan origination servicing system (DLOSS) which includes escrow

capability. To conform to this new system, RHS proposes to make further amendments to the regulations to allow the Agency to provide escrow services to Single-Family Housing borrowers which follow industry standards. In addition, the Agency proposes to amend its regulations to conform to processes and techniques currently utilized by the private sector.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/08/96	61 FR 15395
NPRM Comment Period End	06/07/96	
Interim Final Rule	11/22/96	61 FR 59762
Final Action	04/00/00	
Final Action Effective	05/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is no paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Betsy Fletcher, Chief, Loan Origination Branch, Department of Agriculture, Farmers Home Administration, MS 0783, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1486

RIN: 0575-AB99

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Rural Housing Service (RHS)

Long-Term Actions

297. ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM STREAMLINE ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 40 CFR 300; 40 CFR 260; 40 CFR 700; 40 CFR 400; 7 CFR 1940

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Susan Wieferich

Phone: 202 720-9647

RIN: 0575-AB98

USDA—RHS

Long-Term Actions

298. NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE REGULATIONS**Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1926 subpart B; 7 CFR 1806 subpart B**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes**Small Entities Affected:** Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations**Government Levels Affected:** Federal, State, Local, Tribal**Agency Contact:** Don Lander
Phone: 202 720-9656**RIN:** 0575-AC07**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Rural Housing Service (RHS)**

Completed Actions

299. COMMUNITY FACILITY GRANTS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 3570 subpart B**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/17/99	64 FR 32387

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Jennifer Barton
Phone: 202 720-1504**RIN:** 0575-AC10**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Sam Hodges
Phone: 202 720-9653**RIN:** 0575-AC11**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/26/99	64 FR 28333

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Melvin Padgett
Phone: 202 720-1495**RIN:** 0575-AC17**300. DIRECT SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSING LOANS AND GRANTS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1924 subpart A; 7 CFR 1944 subpart E; 7 CFR 1980 subpart D; 7 CFR 3550 subpart B**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/02/99	64 FR 48083
Final Action Effective	10/04/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**301. SECTION 538 GUARANTEE RURAL RENTAL HOUSING PROGRAM****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 3565**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/16/99	64 FR 32370

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Carl Wagner
Phone: 202 720-1604
Email: cwagner@usda.gov**RIN:** 0575-AC14**303. FARM LABOR HOUSING—COMPETITIVE FUNDING****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1944 subpart D**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/06/99	64 FR 24476

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Joyce Allen
Phone: 202 690-4499
Email: jallen@rdmail.rural.usda.gov**RIN:** 0575-AC19

BILLING CODE 3410-07-F

**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)**

Proposed Rule Stage

304. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; HIGH RISK LAND REGULATIONS**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation adds new regulations to be known as High Risk Land Regulations.

The intended effect of this rule is to set forth rates apart from those prescribed by standard actuarial tables and coverage procedures for acreage on which actual or expected frequency and severity of loss does not reasonably conform to standard insurance coverage and rating determination methods.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803

USDA—FCIC

Proposed Rule Stage

Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AA98

305. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SUBPART D; APPLICATION FOR CROP INSURANCE**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation amends the General Administrative Regulations by revising the "Collection of Information and Data (Privacy Act)" statement found on the general crop insurance application. The proposed amendments to the statement include defining "substantial beneficial interest" as those persons whose interest in the policyholder is in excess of 10 percent. Other minor changes have been made to more fully comply with provisions of the Privacy Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB00

306. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; SMALL GRAINS CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS AND WHEAT WINTER COVERAGE ENDORSEMENT**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(p)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 457.101; 7 CFR 457.102**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation proposes to revise and clarify existing policy provisions, establish winter wheat coverage in certain South Dakota and Wisconsin

counties, reduce coverage under Option B of the Wheat Winter Coverage Endorsement, and to require insurance on spring wheat planted to replace damaged winter wheat covered under the Wheat Winter Coverage Endorsement.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Diana Moslak, Regulatory Review Officer, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 720-2832

RIN: 0563-AB63

307. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; COARSE GRAINS CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(p)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 457.113**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation proposes to make changes to the Coarse Grains Crop Insurance Provisions for corn, grain, sorghum, and soybeans for the 2000 crop year specific to the way corn grain versus corn silage is insured and to clarify the insurability of specialty corn and soybeans.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Diana Moslak, Regulatory Review Officer, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 720-2832

RIN: 0563-AB64

308. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; MOVEMENT OF BUSINESS AMONG INSURANCE PROVIDERS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(p)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: To ensure that the interests of policyholders are protected, and that the policies and policyholder data are transferred in an orderly manner, the Risk Management Agency is providing comprehensive regulations that will apply to agents, managing general agents, policy-issuing companies, and reinsured companies. The objective of this regulation is to prescribe uniform administrative requirements for the movement or assumption of crop insurance policies.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Diana Moslak, Regulatory Review Officer, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 720-2832

RIN: 0563-AB71

309. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; REINSURANCE AGREEMENT—STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(p)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: To provide regulatory authority for the issuance of final determinations by the Administrator. Final determinations are currently being issued by the agency official responsible for entering into Standard Reinsurance Agreements with private sector insurance companies. Final determinations made by the agency cite contract violations and also require that corrective action be taken.

USDA—FCIC

Proposed Rule Stage

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Diana Moslak, Regulatory Review Officer, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 720-2832

RIN: 0563-AB72**310. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SANCTIONS****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(m); 7 USC 1506(p)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: To add a new section to the Sanction regulation that will specify the conditions under which a person and affiliate may qualify for a waiver or reduction of a civil penalty imposed by the Agency.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Diana Moslak, Regulatory Review Officer, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 720-2832

RIN: 0563-AB73**311. COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; FLORIDA FRUIT TREE CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(p)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 457**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation proposes to convert the Florida fruit tree pilot insurance

program to a permanent insurance program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Timothy Hoffmann, Director, Product Development Branch, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 9435 Holmes Road, Kansas City, MO 64141
Phone: 816 926-7743

RIN: 0563-AB75**312. • COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; BLUEBERRY CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(p)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 457**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The purpose of this rule is to solicit public comments on FCIC's proposed action to convert the blueberry pilot insurance program to a permanent insurance program for the 2000 and succeeding crop years. The pilot was initiated for the 1995 crop year for selected counties in Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey and North Carolina and covered highbush and rabbiteye blueberry varieties.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB76**313. • DAIRY OPTIONS PILOT PROGRAM—REVISED NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** FAIR Act of 1996, section 191, section 226 A(b)**CFR Citation:** None**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The purpose of this revised notice is to modify the Notice of Availability published on November 6, 1998, which announced the availability of a new Dairy Options Pilot Program (DOPP) to be administered by the Risk Management Agency (RMA) in conjunction with the private sector. Several program restrictions caused confusion among participating producers, brokers, and Government employees. In particular, the available strike months for which put options may be purchased by producers. The requirement that a producer must purchase all option contracts within 2 months of training did not allow the producer sufficient time to track the volatility of milk futures prices in the coming months. The restrictions also prevented the producer from purchasing options contracts for the strike months when prices are highly volatile and of a real concern to milk producers. These restrictions did not serve to enhance the educational benefit of the program. No additional costs to the Federal Government, or the producer shall result from the changes to this notice. Other changes are being made strictly for administrative purposes. For example, the CCC-321 form which is the entrance/exit survey form was deleted as a requirement of the producer contract making it voluntary.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Notice of Availability	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Sectors Affected:** 001 None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803

USDA—FCIC

Proposed Rule Stage

Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB77

314. • GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; CIVIL RIGHTS DATA COLLECTION**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 28 CFR 42.403; 28 CFR 42.406**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The purpose of this action is to ensure compliance with title VI civil rights requirements. This data collection includes race/national origin, sex, disability, and age. This will allow the agency to better assess if discrimination has occurred and to identify areas in need of outreach.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB78

315. • COMMON CROP INSURANCE REGULATIONS; MILLET CROP INSURANCE PROVISIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(p)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 457**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The purpose of this rule is to solicit public comments on FCIC's proposed action to convert the millet pilot crop insurance program to a permanent insurance program and

clarify existing crop provisions and methodology for calculated losses for the 2001 and succeeding crop years. FCIC believes this proposed rule will provide additional coverage benefits and improved the risk management tool for millet producers in all regions of the country.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB79

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)

316. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SUBPART S; REGULATIONS FOR INSURANCE COVERAGE BY WRITTEN AGREEMENT**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) hereby proposes regulations to allow insurance coverage by written agreement for crops in counties which have no actuarial table. Currently, FCIC provides insurance by written agreement for only program crops. By providing insurance by written agreement, FCIC will provide a risk management tool to a broader base of producers.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/20/97	62 FR 33575
NPRM Comment Period End	08/19/97	
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB07

317. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SUBPART J; APPEAL PROCEDURE REGULATIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This proposed rule will amend FCIC appeal procedures by outlining provisions that producers must follow when appealing decisions which deny them program benefits or eligibility.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/29/95	60 FR 67298
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB17

318. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; SUBPART N; DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1988**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1506(l)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 400**Legal Deadline:** None

USDA—FCIC

Final Rule Stage

Abstract: This rule proposes to revise subpart N of the General Administrative Regulations by repealing obsolete disaster guidelines and requiring the mandatory purchase of catastrophic crop insurance for program crops as a prerequisite for obtaining benefits under any commodity price subpart, production adjustment, or conservation program administered by USDA, or any farmer loan program, whether these programs are administered by FCIC or CFSA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB20

319. FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE ON HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLANDS—PART 400

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 3811; 16 USC 3821

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400.47

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will implement requirements of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to provide that producers will no longer be required to be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985 in order to be eligible to obtain crop insurance. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/23/96	61 FR 38057
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of

Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818
RIN: 0563-AB59

320. FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE ON HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLANDS—PART 401

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 3811; 16 USC 3821

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 401.8

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: This action will implement requirements of the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to provide that producers will no longer be required to be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985 in order to be eligible to obtain crop insurance. No cost is expected.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/26/96	61 FR 39048
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman, Manager, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, MS 0801, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB60

321. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; NONSTANDARD UNDERWRITING CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(p)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation proposes to remove and reserve subpart O of the General

Administrative Regulations, effective for the 1999 (2000 for Texas and Arizona and California Citrus) and succeeding crop years. This proposed action is intended to eliminate the unintended adverse effects of the Nonstandard Classification System (NCS), simplify and update program underwriting rules consistent with the program's current and future anticipated experience, and ensure that crop insurance premiums are applied to all producers in a fair and consistent manner.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/17/97	62 FR 48798
ANPRM Comment Period End	10/17/97	
NPRM	09/02/98	63 FR 46703
NPRM Comment Period End	10/19/98	
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Diana Moslak, Regulatory Review Officer, Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-0801
Phone: 202 720-2832

RIN: 0563-AB66

322. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS; PREMIUM REDUCTIONS; PAYMENTS OF REBATES, DIVIDENDS, AND PATRONAGE REFUNDS; AND PAYMENTS TO INSURED-OWNED AND RECORD-CONTROLLING ENTITIES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1506(l); 7 USC 1506(p); 7 USC 1508(e)(3)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: To allow approved insurance providers to apply to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation for authority to reduce the premium charged producers in accordance with section 508(e)(3) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended, and to provide the limitations and requirements applicable to the payment of rebates, dividends, and patronage refunds to insureds, and payments to insured-owned and record-controlling entities.

USDA—FCIC

Final Rule Stage

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/12/99	64 FR 25464
NPRM Comment Period End	07/12/99	
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Heyward Baker,
Director, Reinsurance Services Division,Department of Agriculture, Federal
Crop Insurance Corporation, 1400
Independence Avenue SW,
Washington, DC 20250-0804
Phone: 202 720-4286

RIN: 0563-AB70

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Completed Actions

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)

323. GROUP RISK PLAN CROP
INSURANCE PROVISIONS; PART 407

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 407

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/07/99	64 FR 30214

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB06

Agency Contact: Kenneth D. Ackerman
Phone: 202 690-2803
Fax: 202 690-2818

RIN: 0563-AB15

325. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATIONS; SUBPART T—
REGULATIONS FOR THE 1999 AND
SUBSEQUENT REINSURANCE YEARS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400; 7 CFR 457

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/28/99	64 FR 40740

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Diana Moslak
Phone: 202 720-2832

RIN: 0563-AB67

324. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATIONS; SUBPART V;
SUBMISSION OF POLICIES AND
PROVISIONS OF POLICIES AND
RATES OF PREMIUM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/19/99	64 FR 38537

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

326. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATIONS; SUBPART U; AND
CATASTROPHIC RISK PROTECTION
ENDORSEMENT—REGULATIONS FOR
THE 1999 AND SUBSEQUENT
REINSURANCE YEARS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400; 7 CFR 402

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/28/99	64 FR 40738

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Diana Moslak
Phone: 202 720-2832

RIN: 0563-AB68

327. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATIONS; INTERPRETATIONS
OF STATUTORY AND REGULATORY
PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 400

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/16/99	64 FR 50245

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian Jenkins
Phone: 202 720-5290

RIN: 0563-AB74

BILLING CODE 3410-08-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)

328. REVIEW INSPECTION
REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 71 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 800.125; 7 CFR
800.135

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: GIPSA is proposing to revise
regulations under the US Grain
Standards Act to allow interested

persons to stipulate the quality factors that would be redetermined during a reinspection or appeal inspection for grade. Currently reinspections and appeal inspections for grade must include a review for all factors that (1) may determine the grade; (2) are reported on the original certificate; or (3) are required to be shown. GIPSA has determined that mandating all quality factors be reexamined during a review inspection is inefficient, time

consuming and costly. Further, such a complete review of the preceding inspection service is usually not needed to confirm the true quality of the grain. This proposed action will allow interested parties to specify which official factors should be redetermined during the reinspection or appeal inspection service. However, to safeguard against inadvertent misgrading, official personnel may

USDA—GIPSA

Proposed Rule Stage

determine other factors, when deemed necessary.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: George W. Wollam, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, Federal Grain Inspection Service, Room 0623-S, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-0292
Email: gwollam@fgisdc.usda.gov

RIN: 0580-AA58

329. REGULATIONS UNDER PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ACT (PRICE REPORTING)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 204; 7 USC 228

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 200

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Following a review of comments received in response to the ANPRM, the Agency is considering a proposed regulation that would make purchasing or selling livestock with the condition that the price not be reported a violation of the Packers and Stockyards Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/10/98	63 FR 48450

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM Comment	12/09/98	
Period End		
NPRM	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: George W. Wollam, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, Federal Grain Inspection Service, Room 0623-S, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-0292
Email: gwollam@fgisdc.usda.gov

RIN: 0580-AA65

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)

330. TOLERANCES FOR DIVIDERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 71 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 801.10

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: GIPSA proposes to remove section 801.10, Tolerance for Dividers, from the CFR. Since GIPSA no longer tests dividers, the rule is no longer needed. By using the direct final rule process, GIPSA will give the public general notice of its intent to remove the rule and provide interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rulemaking through submission of comments.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: George W. Wollam, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, Federal Grain Inspection Service, Room 0623-S, 1400

Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-0292
Email: gwollam@fgisdc.usda.gov

RIN: 0580-AA57

331. REGULATIONS ISSUED UNDER PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ACT (FEED WEIGHT)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 204; 7 USC 228

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 201.49; 9 CFR 201.55; 9 CFR 201.71; 9 CFR 201.72; 9 CFR 201.73

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agency is proposing to amend existing scales and weighing regulations under the Packers and Stockyards Act to include feed when the weight of the feed is a factor in determining payment to growers. The proposed amendments to existing regulations would require that scale tickets be issued containing certain required information and that the weight be printed by a printing device; the actual weight be printed on scale tickets or otherwise explained; scales

be installed, maintained, operated, and tested in accordance with National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook 44, 1996; scales be tested twice each calendar year at intervals of approximately 6 months by competent persons; and scales be operated by qualified persons in accordance with the regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/02/99	64 FR 15938
NPRM Comment	06/01/99	
Period End		
Final Action	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: George W. Wollam, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, Federal Grain Inspection Service, Room 0623-S, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-0292
Email: gwollam@fgisdc.usda.gov

RIN: 0580-AA64

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)

332. POULTRY GROWER
CONTRACTS, SCALES, WEIGHING

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 201

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	02/10/97	62 FR 5935
ANPRM Comment Period End	05/12/97	
Next Action Undetermined		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: George W. Wollam
Phone: 202 720-0292

Email: gwollam@fgisdc.usda.gov

RIN: 0580-AA51

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Completed Actions

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)

333. OFFICIAL TESTING SERVICE
FOR BARLEY PROTEIN ANALYSIS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 800.71; 7 CFR
801.9

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	06/09/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: George W. Wollam
Phone: 202 720-0292

Email: gwollam@fgisdc.usda.gov

RIN: 0580-AA68

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Proposed Rule Stage

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

334. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD
PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS,
AND CHILDREN (WIC):
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule responds to a variety of program concerns, most of which have been expressed by WIC State agencies. The proposal increases State agency flexibility regarding the sharing of participant information with other programs and streamlines Federal requirements for financial and participation reporting by State agencies. Several minor clarifications and technical corrections are also made. (89-515)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/00	
Final Action	07/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: NoGovernment Levels Affected: State,
Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman,
Agency Regulatory Officer, Department
of Agriculture, Food and Consumer
Service, Room 322, 3101 Park Center
Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703 305-2246
Email: sheri.ackerman@fns.usda.gov

RIN: 0584-AB10

335. PROVISIONS OF COMPUTER
MATCHING AND PRIVACY
PROTECTION ACT OF 1988,
AMENDMENTS OF 1990, AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DISQUALIFIED RECIPIENT
SUBSYSTEMPriority: Substantive, Nonsignificant.
Major status under 5 USC 801 is
undetermined.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 552(a)
Computer Matching and Privacy
Protection Act; 7 USC 2015(b) Food
Stamp Act

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 273

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: In accordance with the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act, PL 100-503, and the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Amendments of 1990, PL 101-508, the Food Stamp Program must extend certain protections to persons whose benefits could be adversely

affected by computer matches. These protections include independent verification of computer information, notification to the affected individual and provision of an opportunity to respond to the information before an adverse action becomes effective.

In addition, this proposed rule describes requirements for State agencies to report information on individuals disqualified from the program for intentional program violations to FCS and the related FCS computer matching program known as the Disqualified Recipient Subsystem (DRS). (89-010)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/00/00	
Final Action	02/00/01	
Final Action Effective	05/00/01	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: NoGovernment Levels Affected: Local,
State

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RIN: 0584-AB51

USDA—FNS

Proposed Rule Stage

336. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: RETAILER APPLICATION PROCESSING**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 2011 to 2032; PL 104-193**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 278.1**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule would increase from 30 to 60 days the initial application processing time frame for stores that apply for authorization. It would also allow FCS to request specific documentation to verify applicant firms' eligibility. Such information would include, but would not be limited to, business licenses, photographic identification cards, bills of sale, deeds, leases, sales contracts, certificates of incorporation, sales records, invoice records, and tax records. This documentation would be used to confirm self-reported information provided on the application form and to obtain third-party verification. This rule also includes two provisions dealing with disclosure of retailer tax information based on changes made by Public Law 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA). (95-008)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/03/99	64 FR 59665
NPRM Comment Period End	01/03/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Undetermined**Small Entities Affected:** Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0584-AC05**337. DISCLOSURE OF FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION UNDER THE SCHOOL NUTRITION AND CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAMS****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** PL 103-448, sec 108**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 226; 7 CFR 245**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule would allow limited disclosure of children's free and reduced price meal eligibility status or information, as authorized under Public Law 103-448, to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of (1) programs under the National School Lunch Act or Child Nutrition Act of 1966; (2) Federal education programs; (3) State health and education programs; (4) means-tested nutrition programs; and (5) the Comptroller General and certain law enforcement officials. The rule also proposes safeguards to protect the free and reduced-price application and personal information from misuse and includes penalties for unauthorized disclosures. (95-022)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC21**338. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: WELFARE REFORM MATCHING, FAIR HEARINGS AND RECIPIENT SERVICE RULE****Priority:** Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 273.15; 7 CFR 274; 7 CFR 277**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Department of Agriculture is proposing to implement eight provisions from the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 pertaining

to State agency administration and management.

These provisions: 1) Eliminate the requirement for using mail issuance in rural areas; 2) eliminate the requirement that State agencies display or provide nutrition education information to food stamp applicants and recipients; 3) modify bilingual requirements to allow State agencies more flexibility in providing bilingual services to non-English speaking low-income households; 4) eliminate mandatory State training requirements; 5) allow State agencies to accept an oral withdrawal from the household for a fair hearing request; 6) make optional rather than mandatory the use of the Income Eligibility and Verification System and the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements matching programs; 7) prohibit Federal reimbursement for recruitment activities and prohibit recruitment activities from being approved as part of a State agency's optional Outreach plan; and 8) eliminate the requirement that State agencies review and report on the food stamp office hours. (95-023)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/00	
Final Action	09/00/00	
Final Action Effective	09/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** Federal, State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC22**339. CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM: IMPROVING MANAGEMENT AND PROGRAM INTEGRITY**

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 3 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0584-AC24

USDA—FNS

Proposed Rule Stage

340. DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS AND FREE MILK IN SCHOOLS: PROVISION 2 AND PROVISION 3**Priority:** Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: PL 103-448**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 245**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Under an alternative known as Provision 2, schools that serve all meals at no charge for 3 consecutive years may distribute applications and make free and reduced price meal eligibility determinations once every 3 years. During year 1 of the 3-year cycle, they count and claim meals by category (free, reduced price and paid) and use these counts to develop claiming percentages to use during years 2 and 3. P.L. 103-448 amended the NSLA to allow schools to extend these procedures an additional 2 years and allow subsequent 5-year cycles, without making new free and reduced price eligibility determinations, provided the income level of the school's population remained stable. P.L. 103-448 also added a new Provision 3 for schools that serve all meals free for 4 consecutive years. These schools receive the same level of cash and commodity assistance they received in the last year free and reduced price eligibility determinations and actual meal counts were taken. Additional 4-year cycles were permitted, without making new free and reduced price eligibility determinations, provided the income level of the school's population remained stable. For both provisions, schools must make up the difference between Federal reimbursement and meal costs. Public Law 105-336 subsequently amended the timeframe for Provision 2 so that both Provisions 2 and 3 are 4-year cycles, which may be extended, without making new eligibility determinations, if the income level of the school's population remains stable. The rule will codify these provisions and specify technical aspects, such as the measurement of the income level of the school's population and the types of data that may be used. (96-003)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/99	
Final Action	10/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC25**341. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM REGULATORY REVIEW: CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS****Priority:** Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2026**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 273**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This action proposes to amend Food Stamp Program rules governing the certification of eligible households. It results from a comprehensive, page-by-page review of all existing Food Stamp Program regulations conducted in response to the President's regulatory reform initiative. The proposed changes would empower States to set their own procedures for case management and customer service; remove overly prescriptive, outdated, and redundant provisions; and emphasize recipient responsibility for complying with Program requirements. (96-006)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC28**342. PART 240, CASH IN LIEU OF DONATED FOODS AND PART 250, FOOD DISTRIBUTION REGULATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Unfunded Mandates:** Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: PL 103-448**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 240; 7 CFR 250**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule will incorporate provisions of the Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994 relative to schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. (96-010)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	07/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** State

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RIN: 0584-AC31**343. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM REGULATORY REVIEW: FSP STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL AND OPERATION OF FOOD STAMP ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER SYSTEMS**

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or

USDA—FNS

Proposed Rule Stage

duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 TO 2034

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 274.12

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule proposes revisions to food stamp regulations affecting the standards and administration of EBT systems for food stamp issuance. Current regulations at 7 CFR 274.12 delineate the standards that EBT systems must meet in order to be approved for operation. This rule will revise those regulations to provide the State agency more flexibility in implementing and operating those systems. Clarifications and FNS settlement improvements will also be incorporated into the rule. (96-016)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0584-AC37

344. FSP: PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 4 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0584-AC39

345. FSP: STATE FLEXIBILITY AND CERTIFICATION PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAW 104-193

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 5 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0584-AC40

346. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: WORK PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 6 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0584-AC45

347. FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS PROGRAMS: COMMODITY ACCEPTABILITY REPORT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 100-237

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 250.13(k)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Food Distribution Programs—Reduction of the Paperwork Burden Associated with this Requirement for State and Local Agencies. This rule proposes to reduce the paperwork burden for State and local agencies administering Food Distribution Programs by reducing the sample size needed for collecting commodity acceptability report information for the National School Lunch Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. A 60-day comment period will be provided. (97-004)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

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RIN: 0584-AC56

348. WIC FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM (FMNP): EXPANSION FUNDS ALLOCATION FORMULA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786(m)

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 248

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Child Nutrition Act of 1966 as amended (42 USC 1786(m)(6)) sets forth funding requirements of State agencies currently operating the program and for State agencies wishing to start a new program. The law leaves it to the discretion of the Secretary to determine the method of allocating funds to currently operating State agencies. This interim rule would implement a funding formula for the allocation of such expansion funds to existing FMNP State agencies. (98-003)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/00	
Final Action	06/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

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RIN: 0584-AC68

349. FSP: CIVIL RIGHTS DATA COLLECTIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 88-352, sec 601

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 272

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires the collection of racial/ethnic data for all programs

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Proposed Rule Stage

utilizing Federal funds. State agencies are required to collect the data by racial/ethnic categories set by the Federal Government. In 1997, those categories changed. This proposed rule would change the racial categories for State Food Stamp Program reporting to comply with the new Federal racial categories. (98-010)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/00	
Final Action	01/00/01	
Final Action Effective	04/00/01	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC75

350. • FDPIR: INCOME DEDUCTION AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISION RULE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011-2032

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 253

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule proposes the establishment of two income deductions under the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). Households providing proper verification will be allowed an income deduction for: 1) Legally required child support payments for a nonhousehold member and 2) Medicare Part B premium payments. This rule would also make technical amendments, such as changing outdated terminology, and revising or removing provisions that are obsolete or have changed. These changes are designed to improve program service to FDPIR participants. (99-003)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Tribal

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RIN: 0584-AC81

351. • COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM: PLAIN LANGUAGE, PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY, AND PROGRAM FLEXIBILITY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 101-624; PL 104-127; PL 104-193

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 247

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will rewrite regulations pertaining to the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (7 CFR Part 247) in "plain language." It will also amend regulatory provisions in this part to increase program accountability and flexibility for program operators. The rule will affect program accountability by: (1) Requiring State agencies to initiate a claim against participants for repayment of the value of program benefits obtained as a result of intentional misrepresentation; (2) extending the period that State agencies may disqualify participants for program violations for up to one year; (3) requiring State agencies to disqualify participants for engaging in dual participation, or for other selected program violations; (4) including under program violations the physical abuse, or the threat of physical abuse, of program staff; and (5) including actions of proxies to also be program violations subject to sanctions.

Amendments to increase program flexibility include: (1) Allowing the State to extend the certification of elderly persons on a fixed income for an indefinite period without a formal review of eligibility; (2) increasing the period of time the State agency has to review a local agency's application for participation; (3) allowing State agencies to request to retain more than the maximum amount of administrative funds allocated whether or not they

perform warehouse services; (4) reducing the frequency of State management evaluations of local agencies; and (5) making State plans and Federal-State agreements permanent, with amendments submitted as needed.

Other miscellaneous proposed changes include: (1) Requiring local agencies to notify applicants of a decision on their application within 20 days of the date of application; (2) including the specific factors that FNS uses to determine the amount of caseload that States will receive in addition to base caseload; (3) making the caseload cycle the period from January 1 to December 31; and (4) including a pregnant woman's embryo or fetus in utero as a household member in determining the family's income eligibility.

The rule will also incorporate legislative provisions that have been implemented through program policy, including: (1) Increasing the percentage of the program appropriation, and of funds carried over from the previous year, to be allotted for administrative support of State and local agencies from 15 to 20 percent; (2) requiring that State and local agencies provide information on certain other public assistance programs to participants; (3) allowing State agencies to choose to require that benefits be restricted to U.S. citizens or qualified aliens; and (4) allowing State or local agencies to share information on the immigration status of program applicants or participants with INS or other government agencies. (99-005)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	
Final Action	08/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

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RIN: 0584-AC84

USDA—FNS

Proposed Rule Stage

352. • FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: PAYMENT ADJUSTMENTS

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 105-185, sec 502

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 277

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, October 1, 1998, Payment reduction required by law.

Abstract: State agencies are reimbursed by FNS at 50 percent rate for all allowable costs incurred in the State's operation of the Food Stamp Program. This proposed rule would reduce the Federal payment by the amount of FSP

common costs built into the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) grant as determined by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). It would also allow State agencies to charge the FSP for its share of common costs for determining eligibility of TANF households for FSP in accordance with new HHS policy and approved cost allocation plans. (99-007)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/00	
Final Action	05/00/01	
Final Action Effective	08/00/01	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC86

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

Final Rule Stage

353. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC): FOOD DELIVERY SYSTEMS INTEGRITY

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 7 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0584-AA80

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RIN: 0584-AB19

households participating in TANF in States that the Secretary determines have comparable standards or more stringent standards than the program on June 1, 1995, shall continue to be automatically eligible for free meals. (89-520)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/28/91	56 FR 24033
NPRM Comment Period End	07/29/91	
Final Action	01/00/00	
Final Action Effective	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: Local, State

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RIN: 0584-AB35

354. CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM: AUTHORITY TO COLLECT OVERCLAIMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1766

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule establishes the Department's authority to collect overclaims where participating institutions fail to comply with regulatory recordkeeping requirements. (96-009)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/05/95	60 FR 62227
NPRM Comment Period End	02/05/96	
Final Action	12/00/99	
Final Action Effective	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer

355. DIRECT CERTIFICATION IN NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH, SCHOOL BREAKFAST, AND SPECIAL MILK PROGRAMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: PL 101-147; PL 104-193

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 245

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, July 1, 1990.

Abstract: In response to the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 1989, the Department proposed to allow school officials to certify children eligible for free meals based on information obtained directly from the State or local agency administering the Food Stamp or Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Program. Subsequent to the proposal, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 further amended the National School Lunch Act to replace AFDC with the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Children in

356. WIC: REQUIREMENTS FOR AND EVALUATION OF WIC PROGRAM REQUESTS FOR BIDS FOR INFANT FORMULA REBATE CONTRACTS

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

USDA—FNS

Final Rule Stage

Abstract: At the time the current cost containment regulations were published in 1989, there were only minor differences in infant formula wholesale prices and few differences in types of infant formulas offered by manufacturers, i.e., milk- and soy-based infant formula. However, current wholesale prices vary considerably among manufacturers for similar formulas and several new infant formulas have emerged on the market over the last decade. Therefore, to reflect market changes in the infant formula industry and to optimize competition in the WIC Program's infant formula rebate contracts, this proposed rule would require WIC State agencies to award infant formula rebate contracts based on the lowest net price, allowing highest gross rebate as a basis of award only when retail prices of the different brands of infant formula vary, on average, by 5 percent or less. Additionally, this proposed rule would define the types and forms of infant formula that must be included in cost containment systems. It would also expand on conditions that must be met for the issuance of infant formulas not covered by rebate contracts. (92-013)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/16/98	63 FR 38343
NPRM Comment Period End	09/14/98	
Final Action	07/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is a statutory requirement. There is a paperwork burden associated with this action.

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RIN: 0584-AB52

357. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: ANTICIPATING INCOME AND REPORTING CHANGES

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, Local or Tribal Governments.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 272; 7 CFR 273

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule proposes revisions in Food Stamp Program procedures for reporting and acting on changes in earned income. The changes are designed to increase State agency flexibility and improve procedures for determining the eligibility and benefits of households whose income fluctuates unpredictably. Under this proposal, State agencies would choose from three different reporting requirements for households with earned income. The reporting requirement a State agency selects would replace the current requirement that households report a change of more than \$25 in earned income. In addition to reporting a change in source of income, households would be required to report one of the following: A change in wage rate or salary and a change in part-time or full-time status, provided the household is certified for no more than 3 months; a change in wage rate or salary and a change of more than 5 hours a week that is expected to continue for more than a month; or a change in the amount earned of more than \$80 a month. (93-005)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/17/96	61 FR 66233
NPRM Comment Period End	02/18/97	
Final Action	04/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: Federal, State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AB57

358. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: PAYMENT OF CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF STATE AGENCIES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032; PL 103-66, sec 13961

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 277

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, April 1, 1994, The Act requires funding rate reduction effective 04/01/94.

Abstract: State agencies are reimbursed by FNS at standard or enhanced Federal reimbursement level for all allowable costs incurred in the State's operation of the Food Stamp Program. This proposed rule would reduce the Federal reimbursement rate for State agencies for fraud control, system development, and immigration status verification to the standard 50 percent rate. It would also limit the time period during which State agencies may file a claim for retroactive funding, and allows the cost of certifying aid to families with dependent children to be charged to the Food Stamp Program for purposes of Federal reimbursement. (93-010)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/22/94	59 FR 60079
NPRM Comment Period End	01/23/95	
Final Action	03/00/00	
Final Action Effective	06/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: Local, State

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RIN: 0584-AB66

USDA—FNS

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359. FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS: DEFINITION OF INDIAN TRIBAL HOUSEHOLD**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** PL 88-525; PL 97-98, sec 1338; PL 95-113**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 253; 7 CFR 254**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This final rule will amend part 253 to permit households containing a Native American living in "near areas" to participate in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) regardless of the Native American's tribal affiliation or age. It will also amend part 254 to permit households containing a Native American to participate in FDPIR in Oklahoma regardless of the Native American's age. (82-217)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/20/87	52 FR 39158
Interim Final Rule	01/11/94	59 FR 1447
Final Action	03/00/00	
Final Action Effective	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Tribal

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RIN: 0584-AB67**360. AMENDMENTS TO THE INFANT MEAL PATTERN****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 1751 to 1760; 42 USC 1762a; 42 USC 1765; 42 USC 1766; 42 USC 1773; 42 USC 1779**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 220; 7 CFR 226**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule amends the regulations for the National School Lunch Program (7 CFR 210), School Breakfast Program (7 CFR 220) and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (7 CFR 226) to (1) eliminate the option of serving whole cow's milk to infants between the ages of 8 months and 1

year instead of infant formula or breast milk and (2) permit reimbursement for meals containing only breast milk. The first provision responds to scientific evidence indicating that whole cow's milk is nutritionally deficient compared to breast milk and formula and is not recommended for children less than 1 year old. The second provision is intended to remove a potential disincentive to breast feeding. A related provision would permit providers to give infants that are less than 4 months old an amount of breast milk less than the minimum requirement when the infants consistently do not want the full minimum amount. (95-005)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	11/00/99	
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	05/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, Room 322, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
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RIN: 0584-AB81**361. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: FOOD STAMP RECIPIENT CLAIM ESTABLISHMENT AND COLLECTION STANDARDS**

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 8 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0584-AB88**362. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: REVISIONS TO THE RETAIL FOOD STORE DEFINITION AND PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION GUIDANCE**

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 9 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0584-AB90**363. SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM: PROGRAM MEAL SERVICE DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** PL 103-448; 42 USC 1769a**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 225**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Implements provision of PL 103-448 which permits Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) meal service to be provided at non-school sites to children who are not in school for a period during the months of October through April due to a natural disaster, building repair, court order, or similar cause. This rule also simplifies the SFSP sponsor application and State monitoring requirements in order to eliminate unnecessary paperwork and reduce administrative burden for sponsors and State agencies. (95-011)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/13/98	63 FR 54617
NPRM Comment Period End	12/14/98	
Final Action	12/00/99	
Final Action Effective	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC06**364. IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGISLATIVE REFORMS IN THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 1758; 42 USC 1761; 42 USC 1762a**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 225**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Recent legislative actions have made a number of changes to conditions affecting reimbursement, participation of certain service organizations, and State administration under the Summer Food Service

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Program (SFSP). This interim rule implements several nondiscretionary amendments to SFSP that are prescribed by the Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-448) and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-193). This rule also formalizes categorical eligibility for households participating in the Food Distribution Program on Indian reservations, and makes a number of technical corrections to part 225. (95-025)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, Room 322, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
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RIN: 0584-AC23

365. WIC: BLOODWORK REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would propose revisions to the bloodwork requirements for WIC applicants. Currently, to be certified as eligible for the program, applicants must be determined at nutritional risk. In determining nutritional risk, at a minimum height or length and weight must be measured, and a hematological test for anemia must be performed. This rule would eliminate the requirement for a hematological test for anemia as part of the certification process if another risk factor is present that would qualify the applicant as nutritionally at risk. Hematological test data for anemia would still be required

for counseling and food package purposes. (96-008)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/19/98	63 FR 64211
NPRM Comment	01/19/99	
Period End		
Final Action	12/00/99	
Final Action Effective	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

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RIN: 0584-AC30

366. NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM AND SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM: ADDITIONAL MENU PLANNING ALTERNATIVES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 104-149

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 220

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Public Law 104-149, enacted on May 29, 1996, establishes additional menu planning alternatives for the school meals programs and requires the Secretary to establish guidelines for the use of these additional alternatives. One alternative specified in the statute was the meal pattern in effect for the 1994-95 school year; the other was "any reasonable approach." This regulation would reestablish the meal pattern as a menu planning alternative and provide guidelines for school food authorities to develop a different approach to menu planning. (96-017)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/04/98	63 FR 24686
NPRM Comment	11/02/98	
Period End		
Final Action	12/00/99	
Final Action Effective	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC38

367. FSP: NONDISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 10 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0584-AC41

368. ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER (EBT) PROVISIONS OF THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 104-193, sec 825

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 274.3; 7 CFR 274.12

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, October 1, 2002, Statutory
Implementation Dates: PL 104-193, sec 809 - 1/1/97; PL 104-193, sec 803, 805, and 838 - 08/22/96; PL 104-193, sec 804 and 810 - 10/01/96.
Statutory implementation date of EBT systems per section 825.

Abstract: On August 22, 1996, the President signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-193). This rule proposes to implement the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) provisions found in section 825 of this law which affect the Food Stamp Program. These provisions are meant to encourage implementation of EBT systems to replace food stamp coupons. (96-024)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/27/99	64 FR 28763
NPRM Comment	07/26/99	
Period End		
Final Action	07/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Federal, State

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer

USDA—FNS

Final Rule Stage

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RIN: 0584-AC44

369. FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM: REGULATORY IMPLEMENTATION OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996 (PL 104-193, 110 STAT 2105)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 104-193

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 250(Revision); 7 CFR 251(Revision)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule proposes to amend provisions of the Food Distribution Program regulations and the Emergency Food Assistance Program regulations to implement the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, commonly known as Welfare Reform, while generally streamlining and providing greater clarity to these regulations. In accordance with the Welfare Reform legislation, the proposals contained in this rule would address various program changes required by the repeal of section 110 of the Hunger Prevention Act of 1988, which authorized the former Soup Kitchens/Food Banks Program (SK/FB) and the amendment of definitional terms regarding organizational eligibility in the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), contained in the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983, accompanying the absorption of SK/FB into TEFAP. Changes to term definitions are also proposed in order to provide greater clarity to the regulations. As required by Welfare Reform, this rule also proposes changes in the required contents and frequency of submission of the TEFAP State plan of operation, an encouragement for States to create advisory boards comprised of public and private entities with an interest in the distribution of TEFAP commodities, broadening the definition of allowable usage of TEFAP administrative funds at the State level, and greater flexibility for States in meeting the TEFAP maintenance of effort requirement. In order to reduce the paperwork burden and afford the States greater flexibility, this rule also proposes changes in TEFAP

recordkeeping, monitoring, and reporting requirements. (96-029)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/08/99	64 FR 36978
NPRM Comment Period End	09/07/99	
Final Action	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State

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RIN: 0584-AC49

370. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WIC: IMPLEMENTATION OF WIC-RELATED PROVISIONS OF PL 104-193, PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would implement the WIC-related provisions of Public Law 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996. These provisions include: Sharing of WIC information with the Immigration and Naturalization Service; revision to the definition of homeless individual; and the elimination of several current requirements including annual evaluation of nutrition education and breastfeeding promotion and support efforts, provision of written information on certain programs, and timeframes for action on local agency applications for program participation. (96-031)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: Federal, State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, Room 322, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
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RIN: 0584-AC51

371. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER (EBT) BENEFIT ADJUSTMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011 to 2032

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 273; 7 CFR 274

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule will allow States and/or their EBT processors to make adjustments to an EBT household's food stamp account under certain circumstances. Current regulations do not allow adjustments to a household's EBT account balance once the benefits have been made available to the household. Occasionally, however, system errors and other malfunctions result in out-of-balance settlement conditions which must be adjusted manually. This proposed rule describes the conditions under which an adjustment is allowed, and the accompanying notice requirements. The rule also makes changes to the representation formula. (97-009)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/19/98	63 FR 27511
NPRM Comment Period End	07/20/98	
Interim Final Rule	09/09/99	64 FR 48933
Interim Final Rule Effective	10/12/99	
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	11/08/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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USDA—FNS

Final Rule Stage

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RIN: 0584-AC61

372. FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS: DISQUALIFICATION PENALTIES FOR INTENTIONAL PROGRAM VIOLATIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 2011 to 2032**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 253**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule proposes the establishment of disqualification penalties under the Food Distribution Program for Indian Reservations (FDPIR) for intentional program violations (IPV). It will include provisions that define IPV, establish disqualification penalties for initial and subsequent violations, and address the procedures and requirements for disqualification hearings and notices. The proposed rule will also address the establishment and handling of claims against households. This proposed rulemaking is in response to a recent audit recommendation by USDA's Office of Inspector General to adopt disqualification penalty procedures for IPVs. FDPIR is an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for eligible households living on or near Indian reservations. Food Stamp Program regulations at 7 CFR 273.16 establish disqualification penalties for IPVs and require State agencies to take appropriate action on alleged cases of IPVs. In proposing similar requirements under FDPIR, we expect to deter program abuse, thereby improving program integrity. (97-012)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/22/99	64 FR 39432
NPRM Comment Period End	09/20/99	
Final Action	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Tribal

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RIN: 0584-AC65

373. FSP: EBT SYSTEM SAS70 AUDIT REQUIREMENTS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 2011 to 2032**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 274.12**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule will add a requirement that each State agency ensure that their EBT system is audited annually in accordance with the: 1) AICPA Statement of Auditing Standards 70 (SAS 70); and 2) Audit Guidelines for Service Organizations Providing EBT Services for Government Programs produced by the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE) in consultation with interested parties in State agencies and National Associations concerned with EBT systems. (98-006)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/23/99	64 FR 8733
NPRM Comment Period End	05/24/99	
Final Action	07/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0584-AC71

374. CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS: REIMBURSEMENT FOR SNACKS IN AFTERSCHOOL CARE PROGRAMS**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** PL 105-336**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 235; 7 CFR 245; 7 CFR 226**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule will amend the National School Lunch and Child and Adult Care Food Program regulations to allow reimbursement for snacks to "at-risk" children up to age 18 in after-school care programs. To qualify, the after-school programs must be

organized primarily to provide care for children and have an educational or enrichment purpose. Additionally, snacks must be served free to all children enrolled in after-school care programs located in low-income areas in which at least 50 percent of the children are eligible for free or reduced price school meals. Thus, individual free and reduced price eligibility determinations will not be required for these programs. (98-007)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC72

375. WIC: LOCAL AGENCY EXPENDITURE REPORTS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 246**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This direct final rule amends the regulations for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) to give State agencies greater flexibility in the way they collect nutrition services and administration (NSA) expenditure data from local agencies. State agencies will be allowed to permit local agencies to submit NSA expenditure reports up to quarterly, rather than monthly as is currently required. (98-009)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/99	
Final Action Effective	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

USDA—FNS

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Government Levels Affected: Federal, State, Local, Tribal

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RIN: 0584-AC74

376. WIC: CERTIFICATION INTEGRITY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This interim rule implements three WIC certification requirements contained in Public Law 105-336, the William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998, enacted October 31, 1998. Public Law 105-336 requires: (1) The physical presence of applicants at certification, except in certain circumstances; (2) documentation of an applicant's income, except in certain circumstances; and (3) State agencies to implement a system designed to identify participants participating at more than one WIC site. (98-011)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/00/99	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

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RIN: 0584-AC76

377. WIC: WIC FUNDING PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAW 105-336

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 246

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of

1998 sets forth new funding requirements and revises existing funding provisions for WIC State agencies. The changes incorporated in this final rule are mandated by Congress and require little or no agency discretion. The major funding provisions set forth in WIC's reauthorization included in this final regulation are expanded backspend authority for both food and nutrition services and administration (NSA) funds, the elimination of food spend forward, the expansion of NSA spend forward authority, new requirements for conversion of food funds to NSA funds, a decrease in the NSA spending standard from 15 to 10 percent, the authority to use food funds to purchase breast pumps, and expands the use of vendor and participant collections in the year following collection. (98-012)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/99	
Final Action Effective	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: Federal, State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, Room 322, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
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RIN: 0584-AC77

378. • FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM: DELETION OF REQUIREMENT TO EVALUATE STATE-RUN COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION AND WAREHOUSING SYSTEMS EVERY THREE YEARS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 100-237

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 250.14; 7 CFR 250.15

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Section 250.14(a) currently requires State distributing agencies that operate their own warehousing and distribution system to make a cost comparison of that system with a commercial system every 3 years. Most State distributing agencies have now either switched to a commercial system or evaluated their own system at least

twice and determined it to be the most cost effective. Therefore, we propose to remove that requirement from our regulations. We will maintain the authority to require a cost comparison when circumstances warrant. We are suggesting a direct final rule rather than a proposed rule because we do not expect any objections to this discretionary change. (99-001)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Direct Final Rule	05/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC79

379. • MODIFICATION OF THE "VEGETABLE PROTEINS PRODUCTS" REQUIREMENTS FOR THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM, SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM, SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM AND CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1751-1761, 1779

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 220; 7 CFR 225; 7 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food and Nutrition Service is proposing to update the requirements on using "Vegetable Protein Products" in the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Summer Food Service Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Program (the Child Nutrition Programs) given changes in food technology since the current provisions were adopted. The major changes proposed are to: rename "Vegetable Protein Products" as "Alternate Protein Products;" remove the limit on the amount of these products that can be used; eliminate the requirement that alternate protein products be specially fortified; and update the test used to determine protein quality. These

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proposed changes would give menu planners more flexibility to incorporate these products into their menus along with the traditional protein sources of meat, poultry and seafood. (95-018)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/20/99	64 FR 38839
NPRM Comment Period End	09/20/99	
NPRM Comment Period Extended	11/19/99	
Final Action	05/00/00	
Final Action Effective	06/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0584-AC82

380. • WAIVER AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT PILOT PROJECTS RESULTING FROM RECOMMENDATIONS FROM "FOOD DISTRIBUTION 2000: TRANSFORMING FOOD DISTRIBUTION FOR THE NEXT MILLENNIUM"

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 2011-2032

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 250

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Waiver authority to implement pilot projects designed to improve the purchase and distribution of donated foods and delivery of services for commodity distribution programs. Projects will result from Food Distribution 2000: Transforming Food Distribution for the Next Millennium a major effort to evaluate and improve commodity programs.

Under this effort, USDA will assess existing operations, identify reinvention opportunities, and recommend changes that will transform commodity distribution programs so that they work better and cost less. System changes will be implemented and tested as pilot projects. We do not anticipate any increase in program costs or decrease in program accountability as a result of these pilot projects. (99-004)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Direct Final Rule	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0584-AC83

Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

Long-Term Actions

381. CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM: CHILD NUTRITION AND WIC REAUTHORIZATION ACT AMENDMENTS AND HEALTHY MEALS FOR HEALTHY AMERICANS ACT OF 1994

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 226

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	02/26/98	63 FR 9721
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

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RIN: 0584-AC20

382. REGULATORY REFORM: PROVISIONS RELATING TO FIRMS PARTICIPATING IN THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 278; 7 CFR 279

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0584-AC48

383. FOOD STAMP PROVISIONS OF THE BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1997

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 272.1(g); 7 CFR 273.7(c); 7 CFR 273.7(d); 7 CFR 273.24

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	10/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
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RIN: 0584-AC63

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)
Completed Actions
384. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC): FOOD COST CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS
Priority: Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 246**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn-- Incorporated into RIN 0584-AB52	08/05/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local, Tribal

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 RIN: 0584-AB11

385. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: 1995 QUALITY CONTROL TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS
Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 271.2; 7 CFR 275.3; 7 CFR 275.10; 7 CFR 275.11; 7 CFR 275.12; 7 CFR 275.13; 7 CFR 275.23

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/16/99	64 FR 38287
Final Action Effective	10/01/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Federal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
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 RIN: 0584-AB38

386. SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS: TECHNICAL AND NONDISCRETIONARY AMENDMENTS
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 215; 7 CFR 220; 7 CFR 235; 7 CFR 245

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/20/99	64 FR 50735
Final Action Effective	10/20/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
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 RIN: 0584-AC01

387. AMENDMENT TO REMOVE FORMULATED GRAIN—FRUIT PRODUCT SECTION
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 220**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn--Re- evaluated the need for the action.	07/15/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
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 RIN: 0584-AC09

388. CONSOLIDATION OF NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM, SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM AND SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM INTO A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM
Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 210; 7 CFR 220; 7 CFR 225

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn--for major reworking	06/15/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
 Phone: 703 305-2246
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 RIN: 0584-AC10

389. WIC: FOOD PACKAGE ADJUSTMENTS AND CORRECTIONS
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 246**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn--Will be a future rulemaking	08/11/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
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 RIN: 0584-AC29

390. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: RETAILER INTEGRITY, FRAUD REDUCTION AND PENALTIES
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 271; 7 CFR 278; 7 CFR 279

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/30/99	64 FR 23165

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
 Phone: 703 305-2246
 Email: sheri.ackerman@fns.usda.gov
 RIN: 0584-AC46

391. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC): DISQUALIFICATION OF WIC VENDORS WHO ARE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 246**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/18/99	64 FR 13311
Final Action Effective	05/17/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** Federal, State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
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 Email: sheri.ackerman@fns.usda.gov
 RIN: 0584-AC50

392. IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES IN THE CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 226

USDA—FNS

Completed Actions

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR	Cite
Withdrawn-- Incorporated into RIN 0584-AC24	06/30/99		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246
Email: sheri.ackerman@fns.usda.gov
RIN: 0584-AC52

393. WIC: FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES AND ADMINISTRATION (NSA) FUNDING FORMULA RULE**Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 246**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR	Cite
Final Action	10/02/99	64 FR	56669

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** Federal, State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
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Email: sheri.ackerman@fns.usda.gov
RIN: 0584-AC64

394. COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM: PROGRAM STREAMLINING, FLEXIBILITY, AND MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 247**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR	Cite
Withdrawn-- Superseded by RIN 0584-AC84	08/09/99		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
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Email: sheri.ackerman@fns.usda.gov
RIN: 0584-AC66

395. SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC): SOY-BASE BEVERAGES (SOYMILK) IN WIC**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 246**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR	Cite
Withdrawn--Will be a future rulemaking	08/11/99		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246
Email: sheri.ackerman@fns.usda.gov
RIN: 0584-AC67

396. MAXIMUM ALLOTMENTS FOR 48 STATES & DC & INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS FOR 48 STATES, DC, AK, GU AND VI**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** None**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR	Cite
Final Action	05/11/99	64 FR	25272

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** Federal, State, Local

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman
Phone: 703 305-2246
Email: sheri.ackerman@fns.usda.gov
RIN: 0584-AC69

397. FSP: MAXIMUM ALLOTMENTS FOR ALASKA, HAWAII, GUAM, AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** None**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR	Cite
Final Action	05/11/99	64 FR	25270

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** Federal, State, Local**Agency Contact:** Sheri Ackerman

Phone: 703 305-2246

Email: sheri.ackerman@fns.usda.gov

RIN: 0584-AC70**398. • WIC FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM (FMNP): NONDISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS OF THE WILLIAM F. GOODLING REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1786; PL 105-336, sec 203(o)**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 248**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This final rule will implement the nondiscretionary provisions of the recent reauthorizing legislation pertaining to the FMNP. These provisions: (1) Allow program income as a countable source for the matching funds requirement; (2) allow FMNP State agencies who want to increase the value of benefits to recipients (as opposed to increasing the total number of recipients) to compete for expansion funds when such funds are available; and (3) eliminate specific State Plan ranking criteria and preferences, requiring only that the Secretary use objective criteria in selecting new FMNP State agencies. (99-002)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR	Cite
Direct Final Rule	09/02/99	64 FR	48073

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Sheri Ackerman, Agency Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Service, Room 322, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302
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RIN: 0584-AC80**BILLING CODE** 3410-30-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

Proposed Rule Stage

399. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR READY-TO-EAT MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq; 21 USC 601 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381; 9 CFR 430

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is proposing to establish pathogen reduction performance standards for all ready-to-eat meat and poultry products. The performance standards spell out the objective level of pathogen reduction that establishments must meet during their operations in order to produce safe products, but allow the use of customized, plant-specific processing procedures other than those prescribed in the earlier regulations. Along with HACCP, food safety performance standards will give establishments the incentive and flexibility to adopt innovative, science-based food safety processing procedures and controls, while providing objective, measurable standards that can be verified by Agency inspectional oversight. This set of performance standards will include and be consistent with those already in place for certain ready-to-eat meat and poultry products.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC46

400. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR BACON

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 318.7(b)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is proposing to revise the regulatory provisions concerning the production and testing of bacon (9 CFR 318.7(b)). FSIS is proposing to remove provisions that require the Agency to test bacon for nitrosamines and to remove provisions that prescribe the substances and amounts of such substances that must be used to produce bacon. FSIS is proposing to replace these provisions with performance standards that establishments producing bacon must meet. To meet these proposed performance standards, the process used would be required to prevent the multiplication of Clostridium botulinum and limit the multiplication Clostridium perfringens. In addition, the process would be required to limit the presence of nitrosamines when the product is cooked. Establishments under HACCP would be required to incorporate the proposed performance standards into their Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plans.

FSIS is proposing these regulations in order to allow establishments to develop alternative means of producing bacon. In addition, FSIS is proposing these regulations to remove the Agency's testing responsibilities and to require establishments producing bacon, instead, to control and monitor their own processes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC49

401. LABELING OF FOOD UNDER THE VOLUNTARY NUTRITION LABELING PROGRAM; 1996 RETAIL SURVEY COMPLIANCE RESULTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 - 695; 21 USC 451 - 470

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service is proposing a change in its voluntary nutrition labeling program for single ingredient, raw meat and poultry products. A retail survey indicated that less than 60 percent of retailers were participating in the voluntary program. Therefore, FSIS is proposing to require the nutrition labeling of the 45 major cuts of single-ingredient, raw meat and poultry products.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC55

402. • REFORM OF REGULATIONS ON IMPORTED LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 11 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0583-AC56

403. • AGENCY ORGANIZATION AND TERMINOLOGY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451-470; 21 USC 601-695; 21 USC 1031-1056

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 300; 9 CFR 301; 9 CFR 306; 9 CFR 311; 9 CFR 320; 9 CFR 327; 9 CFR 381; 9 CFR 590; ...

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rulemaking will amend FSIS's regulations by consolidating and

USDA—FSIS

Proposed Rule Stage

updating organizational provisions and definitions of various terms that, until now, have been addressed separately in regulations adopted under the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and, in some instances, the Egg Products Inspection Act. The rulemaking will complete a task that the Agency began in a December 31, 1998, final rule that added information on FSIS's current responsibilities and organizational structure to the Agency's regulations and reflected the current allocation of responsibilities within the Department by redesignating regulations adopted under the EPIA and transferring them to FSIS's regulations (from those of the Agricultural Marketing Service).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Department of

Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC57

404. • EGG PRODUCTS INSPECTION REGULATIONS

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 12 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0583-AC58

405. • NUTRITION LABELING OF GROUND OR CHOPPED MEAT OR POULTRY PRODUCTS AND SINGLE-INGREDIENT PRODUCTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.; 21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule will amend the Federal meat and poultry inspection regulations to provide increased flexibility in the labeling of ground meat and poultry and single-ingredient products. This rule allows

consumers to differentiate between the varying amounts of fat in these products and to help them select lower fat versions of these products.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC60

406. • PATHOGEN REDUCTION; HAZARD ANALYSIS AND CRITICAL CONTROL POINT (HACCP) SYSTEMS; ADDITIONS TO E. COLI CRITERIA AND SALMONELLA PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 13 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0583-AC63

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Final Rule Stage

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

407. SUBSTANCES APPROVED FOR USE IN THE PREPARATION OF MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 14 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0583-AB02

408. RETAINED WATER IN RAW MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS; POULTRY-CHILLING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 451 et seq

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381; 9 CFR 440

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: FSIS is developing a final rule to limit the amount of water absorbed and retained by single-ingredient raw meat and poultry products to the amount that is unavoidable in carrying out washing or chilling procedures. Such products include immersion-chilled poultry carcasses and raw meat byproducts that are chilled in water. A requirement for raw products to bear a labeling statement on absorbed water content is being considered. However, establishments having data that demonstrate their raw products do not gain weight as a result of washing or chilling would not have to label the products with such a statement. The proposal also would replace the command-and-control provisions of the regulations on poultry chilling and moisture control with performance standards. This proposal is being made in furtherance of the Agency's

regulatory reform effort and in response to a July 23, 1997, U.S. District Court order setting aside current moisture limits for frozen, cooked, or consumer-packaged whole poultry. The labeling provisions of this proposal would be intended to provide consumers with additional information for making purchasing decisions.

Affected establishments would have to bear the minimal costs associated with any required labeling modifications.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/11/98	63 FR 48961
NPRM Comment Period End	01/13/99	63 FR 68700
Final Action	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and

USDA—FSIS

Final Rule Stage

Analysis Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC26

409. RULES OF PRACTICE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601; 21 USC 451

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 304; 9 CFR 305; 9 CFR 306; 9 CFR 327; 9 CFR 335; 9 CFR 381; 9 CFR 500

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is amending the regulations concerning the rules of practice that apply to Agency enforcement actions. In response to comments received on the proposed rule and its experience under the Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems, FSIS is defining each type of enforcement action that it may take, the conditions under which it is likely to take each of these actions, and the procedures that it will follow in doing so. This rule is part of FSIS's ongoing efforts to consolidate, streamline, and clarify the meat and poultry product inspection regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/12/98	63 FR 1797
NPRM Comment Period End	03/13/98	
Final Action	11/00/99	
Final Action Effective	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC34

410. ELIMINATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTIAL QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAMS

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 15 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0583-AC35

411. IRRADIATION OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS

Priority: Economically Significant.
Major under 5 USC 801.

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect the private sector under PL 104-4.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 450; 21 USC 601

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 318; 9 CFR 381

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is amending the meat inspection regulations to permit the use of ionizing radiation for treating fresh or frozen uncooked meat, meat byproducts, and certain meat food products to reduce levels of pathogens. FSIS is taking this action in light of the Food and Drug Administration's recent final rule amending the food additive regulations to provide for the safe use of irradiation sources to treat these same meat products. FSIS also is revising to revise for consistency the current regulations governing the irradiation of poultry.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/24/99	64 FR 9089
NPRM Comment Period End	06/17/99	
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is a paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and

Analysis Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC50

412. MEAT PRODUCED BY ADVANCED MEAT/BONE SEPARATION MACHINERY AND RECOVERY SYSTEMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 21 USC 601 to 695

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 301.2; 9 CFR 318.24 (Revision); 9 CFR 320.1(b)(10)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: In 1994, the Food Safety and Inspection Service amended its regulations to recognize that product resulting from advanced meat/bone separation machinery comes within the definition of meat when recovery systems are operated to assure that the characteristics and composition of the resulting product are consistent with those of meat. Subsequent compliance problems and other concerns have made it apparent that the regulations are confusing and inadequate to prevent misbranding and economic adulteration. Therefore, FSIS is developing a proposed rule to clarify the regulations and supplement the rules for assuring compliance. The Agency is reviewing information obtained since publication of the proposal and further rulemaking on the noncompliance criterion for bone marrow.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/13/98	63 FR 17959
NPRM Comment Period End	06/12/98	
Final Action	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC51

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

Long-Term Actions

413. NUTRITION LABELING OF GROUND BEEF AND HAMBURGER

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/24/94	59 FR 26916
NPRM Extension of Comment Period	07/05/94	59 FR 34396
NPRM Comment Period End	07/08/94	
NPRM Extension of Comment Period End	08/22/94	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
 Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AB74

414. TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE, AND OTHER HANDLING OF POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS FOODS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 308; 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 325; 9 CFR 381

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/22/96	61 FR 59372
ANPRM Comment Period End	02/20/97	
NPRM	12/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
 Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC05

415. GRANT AND INAUGURATION OF INSPECTION

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 304; 9 CFR 305

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
 Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC07

416. BEEF OR PORK WITH BARBECUE SAUCE; REVISION OF STANDARDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 319

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/03/97	62 FR 46450
NPRM Comment Period End	11/03/97	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
 Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC09

417. PERFORMANCE STANDARD FOR THE CHILLING OR OTHER PROCESSING OF LIVESTOCK CARCASSES AND READY-TO-COOK POULTRY

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 381

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
 Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC21

418. ANTE-MORTEM AND POST-MORTEM INSPECTION OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 309; 9 CFR 310; 9 CFR 381

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
 Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC43

419. REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPOSITION AND DISPOSAL OF INSPECTED RAW MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 311; 9 CFR 314; 9 CFR 320; 9 CFR 325; 9 CFR 381; 9 CFR 428; 9 CFR 455

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
 Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC44

420. REWORKING OF MEAT AND POULTRY CARCASSES ACCIDENTALLY CONTAMINATED DURING EVISCERATION

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 310; 9 CFR 381; 9 CFR 433

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/01	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
 Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC53

USDA—FSIS

Long-Term Actions

421. • LABELING—GENERIC APPROVAL AND REGULATION CONSOLIDATION**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**Legal Authority:** 21 U.S.C. 451-470; 21 U.S.C. 601-695**CFR Citation:** 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 327; 9 CFR 381; 9 CFR 412**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This rulemaking will continue an effort initiated several

years ago by amending FSIS's regulations to expand the types of labeling that are generically approved. FSIS plans to propose that the submission of labeling for approval prior to use be limited to certain types of labeling, as specified in the regulations. In addition, FSIS plans to reorganize and amend the regulations by consolidating labeling rules that currently are stated separately for livestock products and poultry products (in part 317, subpart A, and part 381, subpart N, respectively) and by amending their provisions to set out clearly various circumstances under which these products are misbranded.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC59
Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

Completed Actions

422. USE OF SOY PROTEIN CONCENTRATE, FOOD STARCH-MODIFIED AND GELATIN AS BINDERS IN CERTAIN MEAT PRODUCTS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 9 CFR 318**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/24/99	64 FR 27901

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AB82**424. SANITATION REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFICIAL MEAT AND POULTRY ESTABLISHMENTS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 9 CFR 303; 9 CFR 308; 9 CFR 381; 9 CFR 416**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/20/99	64 FR 56400

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes**Government Levels Affected:** Federal

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
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RIN: 0583-AC39

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RIN: 0583-AC41**426. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR SHELF-STABLE, READY-TO-EAT PRODUCTS****Priority:** Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.**CFR Citation:** 9 CFR 317; 9 CFR 381**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/31/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
Phone: 202 720-5276

RIN: 0583-AC45**423. ADDITION OF MEXICO TO LIST OF COUNTRIES ELIGIBLE TO EXPORT POULTRY PRODUCTS TO THE UNITED STATES****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 9 CFR 381.196**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/14/99	64 FR 49640

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
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RIN: 0583-AC33**425. LABELING STANDARDS FOR OVINE CARCASSES, PARTS OF CARCASSES, MEAT AND MEAT-FOOD PRODUCTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.**CFR Citation:** 9 CFR 319**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/31/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Daniel L. Engeljohn**427. ELIMINATION OF ACCREDITED LABORATORY PROGRAM FOR FOOD CHEMISTRY AND RESIDUE CHEMISTRY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 9 CFR 318.21; 9 CFR 381.153**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/31/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

USDA—FSIS

Completed Actions

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
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RIN: 0583-AC48

428. SALMONELLA ENTERITIDIS IN EGGS

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 59; 21 CFR 100

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/31/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Daniel L. Engeljohn
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RIN: 0583-AC52

429. FEE INCREASE FOR INSPECTION SERVICES OF MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 9 CFR 391

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/23/99	64 FR 19865

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0583-AC54

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)

Proposed Rule Stage

430. EXPORT SALES REPORTING REQUIREMENT

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 5712

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 20

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Consideration of a proposal to add meat and meat products to the list of commodities for which advanced notice of export is reported, and a streamlined electronic reporting system as the means to accomplish that reporting. A proposed rule will solicit public comments.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/14/96	61 FR 58343
ANPRM Comment Period End	01/13/97	
NPRM	12/01/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/01/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0551-AA51

431. • DAIRY TARIFF-RATE IMPORT QUOTING LICENSING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 19 USC 1202; PL 97-258; 31 USC 9701; 19 USC 3513; 19 USC 3601

CFR Citation: 7 CFR Part 6

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed rule would revise the import regulation that governs the administration of the TRQ import licensing system for certain dairy products to: 1) broaden the definition of "Licensing Authority" and 2) provide for review and correction of errors made by USG officials.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/04/99	64 FR 42288
NPRM Comment Period End	10/04/99	
Final Action	12/00/99	
Final Action Effective	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0551-AA58

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)
Long-Term Actions
**432. CCC SUPPLIER CREDIT
GUARANTEE PROGRAM**
Priority: Economically Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1493**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/19/95	60 FR 37025
NPRM Comment Period End	09/18/95	
Interim Final Rule	07/01/96	61 FR 33825
Final Action	To Be Determined	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Kimberly Chisley
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RIN: 0551-AA30

**433. FACILITY GUARANTEE
PROGRAM**
Priority: Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 17; 7 CFR 1493**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	03/01/93	58 FR 11786
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	06/01/93	

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	08/08/97	62 FR 42651
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	10/07/97	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0551-AA35

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)
Completed Actions
**434. PROPOSED REGULATIONS
GOVERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE COOPERATOR FOREIGN
MARKET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
OVERSEAS**
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant.
Major status under 5 USC 801 is
undetermined.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1550**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/15/99	64 FR 32156
NPRM Comment Period End	07/14/99	
Final Action	09/30/99	64 FR 52627

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0551-AA26

**435. REFORM OF EXPORT BONUS
PROGRAM**
Priority: Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1494; 7 CFR 1570**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	09/15/99	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined

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RIN: 0551-AA41

**436. DAIRY TARIFF-RATE IMPORT
QUOTA LICENSING**
Priority: Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 6.20 to 6.36**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	08/18/99	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0551-AA53
BILLING CODE 3410-10-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Forest Service (FS)
Prerule Stage
**437. • NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM
ROADLESS AREAS**

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No.
 16 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal
Register**.

RIN: 0596-AB77

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Forest Service (FS)
Proposed Rule Stage**438. HYDROPOWER APPLICATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 551; 43 USC 1761**CFR Citation:** 36 CFR 251**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Forest Service is revising its current policy and procedures implemented in February 1987, concerning administration of hydropower authorizations and the processing of proposals for hydropower projects affecting National Forest System lands. These revisions are necessary to make agency policy and procedures consistent with regulatory changes by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The proposed policy was published in the Federal Register on May 22, 1995 (60 FR 27153) for a 60-day public comment period, which was extended for another 45 days (60 FR 36401). As a result of the comments received, substantial changes were made to the proposed policy (60 FR 36401). Therefore, the Forest Service is publishing a revised proposed policy for public comment.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/22/95	60 FR 27153
NPRM Comment Period Extended	07/17/95	60 FR 36401
NPRM Comment Period End	09/05/95	
Second NPRM	02/00/00	
Second NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0596-AA47**439. NATIONAL FOREST PROHIBITIONS****Priority:** Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or

duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472; 16 USC 551; 16 USC 683; 7 USC 1011(f); 16 USC 1246(i); 16 USC 1133(c) to 1133(d)(1); 16 USC 4306 to 4307

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 261**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Regulations at 36 CFR 261, subpart A, set out the acts prohibited on National Forest System (NFS) lands. These prohibitions derive from either statutes governing National Forest programs or other regulations. The regulations at subpart B authorize Regional Foresters, Forest Supervisors, or Station Directors to close National Forest System lands under their jurisdiction to certain uses or to restrict some uses of NFS lands. These closures are issued by order. Because of the high level of public interest in this rulemaking the Agency has decided to issue a second proposed rule for comment. This action no longer includes the minor revisions to part 262, Law Enforcement Support Activities, which is now described as a separate action.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/16/94	59 FR 7880
NPRM Comment Period End	05/18/94	
Second NPRM	03/00/00	
Second NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Additional Information: RIN 0596-AA65 was combined with RIN 0596-AA75

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RIN: 0596-AA75**440. SMALL TRACTS ACT REGULATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in

the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 521(c) to 521(i)**CFR Citation:** 36 CFR 254**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Implementation of the Agency's Small Tracts regulations (adopted in 1984) has revealed an inadvertent inconsistency between the regulations at 36 CFR 254.35(f) and 254.41(a) and the legislative history of the Small Tracts Act of January 12, 1983. The regulations imply that the disposal of mineral fractions by sale can only be made in response to an application from an abutting landowner, thus discouraging the conveyance by sale to the public. The Act clearly authorizes sale of mineral fractions to the public through public sale, as well as individual applications, provided that certain conditions are met. The revisions will clarify the application of the Act to ensure that both individual applications and public sale are permissible means of disposing of qualifying tracts.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0596-AA79**441. SPECIES SURPLUS TO DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING NEEDS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 620 et seq**CFR Citation:** 36 CFR 223.200**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This proposed rule would amend 36 CFR 223.200, to list species proposed to be surplus to domestic manufacturing needs. This proposed rule would implement a portion of section 620a(b) of the Forest Resources

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Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990 (16 USC 620 et seq). Section 620a(a) of the Act provides that no person who acquires unprocessed timber originating from Federal lands west of the 100th meridian in the contiguous 48 States may export such timber from the United States, or sell, trade, exchange or otherwise convey such timber from the United States, unless such timber has been determined under subsection (b) to be surplus to the needs of timber manufacturing facilities in the United States. Section 620a(b) of the Act provides that the prohibition contained in section (a) shall not apply to specific quantities of grades and species of unprocessed timber originating in Federal lands which the Secretary determines, through rulemaking, to be surplus to domestic manufacturing needs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/00	
NPRM Comment	06/00/00	
Period End		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Yes**Small Entities Affected:** Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** Federal

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RIN: 0596-AB27

442. COLLECTION OF REIMBURSABLE COSTS FOR PROCESSING SPECIAL-USE APPLICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION OF SPECIAL-USE AUTHORIZATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined**Legal Authority:** 43 USC 1764; 30 USC 181**CFR Citation:** 36 CFR 251**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The objective of this proposal is to incorporate into regulation the authority contained in the Mineral Leasing Act and the Federal Land

Policy and Management Act to reimburse the United States for reasonable administrative costs associated with the issuance and administration of special-use authorizations on National Forest System lands. It responds to a recommendation contained in GAO Audit Report RCED-97-16 (12/96).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment	12/00/99	
Period End		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Yes**Small Entities Affected:** Businesses, Organizations**Government Levels Affected:** None

Additional Information: Cost reimbursement for processing special-use applications and administration of special-use authorizations was originally included under RIN 0596-AA36. All provisions pertaining to the special-use application and administration process have been merged with RIN 0596-AB35. Thus, this rulemaking addresses only the cost-reimbursement provisions.

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RIN: 0596-AB36

443. APPEAL OF DECISIONS RELATING TO OCCUPANCY AND USE OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 472; 16 USC 551**CFR Citation:** 36 CFR 251; 36 CFR 214**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: These proposed regulations would redesignate these appeals rules as a new part 214, thus placing all appeals and notices and comment rules in close proximity. Additionally, this proposed rule would revise a number of existing provisions. For example, changes to part 251 would clarify the application of this rule to the issuance of permits for occupancy and use of National Forest System lands. When 36

CFR part 251, subpart C, regulations were promulgated in 1989, NEPA analysis and documentation was not consistently applied to the authorization of special uses. Now the authorization and the issuance of permits and other authorization requires application of the NEPA process prior to issuance. In addition, since these regulations were implemented, Congress has passed the Appeal Reform Act. The proposed changes to the permit related appeal rules are needed to make this regulation consistent with regulations at 36 CFR part 215. Among specific proposed changes being considered are removing the second level of appeal opportunity, removing the discretionary review option, shortening timeframes for scheduling oral presentations, and changes to conform terminology and definitions with 36 CFR part 215.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment	12/00/99	
Period End		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0596-AB45

444. SALE AND DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM TIMBER; EXTENSION OF TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS TO PERMIT URGENT REMOVAL OF OTHER TIMBER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 472a; 16 USC 618; 16 USC 620**CFR Citation:** 36 CFR 223.50; 36 CFR 223.53**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule and policy change will provide for extension of National Forest System (NFS) timber sale contracts when such extension will permit the prompt removal and utilization of non-NFS-owned timber damaged by catastrophic events. The change will define the responsibilities

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of the parties for requesting and approving such extensions and specify when such extension should be approved. This change will also allow for the use of scarce timber resources and the recovery of economic benefits from timber that might otherwise be lost because of contractual obligations to harvest undamaged timber.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

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RIN: 0596-AB48

445. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT; REVISED POLICY AND PROCEDURES; CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 4371

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed revision to Forest Service Manual and Handbook direction would be revised to clarify the environmental analysis process used by the Forest Service to implement the NEPA regulations at 40 CFR part 1500. The proposal will focus on better defining the process for determining when projects are categorically excluded and expanding the categories of action that can be excluded under NEPA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0596-AB54

446. LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1011(f); 16 USC 472; 16 USC 551; 16 USC 559(a) to 559(g); 40 USC 484(m)

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 262

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: In February 1994, the Forest Service published proposed rule changes for parts 261 and 262 of title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Due to the high level of interest in and comment on part 261, the decision was made to publish a second proposed rule. The majority of the public comment on part 262 referred to the definition section which has been revised to respond to those comments. The Forest Service has decided to issue a second proposed rule for comment on part 262, Law Enforcement Support Activities. Proposed revisions to part 261 will proceed separately.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/16/94	59 FR 7880
NPRM Comment Period End	05/18/94	
Second NPRM	01/00/00	
Second NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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RIN: 0596-AB61

447. ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOREST DEVELOPMENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 551; 23 USC 205

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 212

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Forest Service proposes to change how the National Forest road system is improved, maintained, operated, and funded. Advanced notice of the agency's intent was published January 28, 1998, concurrently with publication of a notice of a proposed interim rule to Temporarily Suspend Road Construction in Roadless Areas. Extensive comments were received on both notices and have been considered in developing an interim final road suspension rule (February 12, 1999, 64 FR 7290) and in proposing a long range road management policy for the National Forest System.

The existing road system on National Forest System lands was largely funded and constructed through timber harvesting and the development of other resources to provide long-term access for use, management and protection. In the last 10 years, public interest in the national forests has shifted substantially toward recreation use and resource protection. Road management emphasis needs to shift away from new construction and development toward operation and maintenance.

Accordingly, the agency proposes to revise its transportation system rules at 36 CFR part 212 to change the emphasis from development of roads to operation and maintenance of roads. The agency also proposes revision of its internal road management and forest planning direction to shift the focus of forest road system administration to access management rather than development and expansion, and clarify terminology and definitions. A key element of the internal directive change is the adoption of science-based, multi-scale road analysis that subjects potential road construction and reconstruction to a rigorous analysis of effects and more completely considers unroaded area values. These analyses will be coordinated and integrated with other resource assessments and forest planning. This is expected to result in fewer roads, especially in unroaded

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areas, and a more affordable, safer, better maintained road system needed to access the national forests.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	01/28/98	63 FR 4350
ANPRM Comment Period End	03/30/98	
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0596-AB67

448. NONCOMPETITIVE SALE OF TIMBER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472(a)

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223.85

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule would revise 36 CFR 223.85 by removing references to section 2001(k) of Public Law 104-19 (109 Stat. 246) and define "extraordinary conditions" to allow forest officers, without advertisement, to make modifications to timber and forest product sales, which result in the substitution of timber or forest products from outside the sale area specified in the contract. Under the proposed rule, substitute timber or forest products would have to come from the same administrative national forest and meet agency requirements for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and other environmental laws. This proposed rule would not compel a timber purchaser to accept a timber sale modification offered under this rule. The rule only authorizes the Forest Service to propose modifications and to enter into discussions with purchasers on such modifications.

This proposed rule will reduce timber sale cancellations and partial cancellations, thus reducing future damage claims on timber sales.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0596-AB70

449. CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR CERTAIN SPECIAL USES PERMIT ACTIONS (FSH 1909.15, CHAPTER 30)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 4321 to 4346

CFR Citation: Not Yet Determined

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: In April 1997, the Forest Service completed a reengineering study of its special uses program. One finding in that study was that the Forest Service is conducting extensive National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis and documentation for the renewal or transfer of ownership of special use authorizations having no significant effect on the human environment, either individually or cumulatively. This level of NEPA compliance is costly, time consuming and not commensurate with the risk attributed to the activity. Therefore, the Forest Service proposes to add a new category of categorical exclusions from NEPA documentation section 31.1b of FSH 1909.15, Environmental Policy and Procedures Handbook, to provide clearer direction regarding the NEPA obligation in the transfer of and amendment to special use authorizations. Also, a new category would be added to section 31.2 that applies to the renewal of special use authorizations.

Further, the Forest Service proposes to amend section 30.3 to clarify the NEPA documentation that is needed for processing applications and authorizations under a categorical exclusion when extraordinary circumstances exist. The existing definition in section 30.3 implies that

the "mere presence" of an extraordinary circumstance would require that an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be completed for actions that would otherwise be categorically excluded. The Forest Service proposes to amend this section to provide that an identified extraordinary circumstance must clearly have an impact on the National Forest resource to merit preparation of an EA or EIS.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0596-AB73

450. CLARIFICATION OF EXEMPTIONS FROM SPECIAL-USE AUTHORIZATIONS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 16 USC 477 to 482; 16 USC 551; 43 USC 1761 to 1771

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251.50(c)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: In April 1997, the Forest Service completed a reengineering study of its special uses program on how to manage the program in a more business-like, customer-service-oriented way. The Agency proposes the following revisions to 36 CFR 251.50 that would implement recommendations from this study. The study determined that many units are issuing special use authorizations unnecessarily, thereby increasing workloads. The study concluded that the Agency should clarify the special uses rules at section 251.50(a) to make explicitly clear that special use authorizations should not be issued for activities that are regulated by other Forest Service regulations; for example, those governing the disposal of timber

USDA—FS

Proposed Rule Stage

(part 223); minerals (part 228); the use of forest development roads and trails (part 212 and section 251.110); and the grazing of cattle (part 222). The study also concluded that section 251.50(d) should be revised to direct that special use authorizations should not be issued where such authorization would serve no land or resource management objective and would have nominal effects on National Forest System lands; for example, where activities are adequately regulated by other governmental entities or where an authorized officer determines that normal operation and maintenance by the holder is within the scope of a right-of-way, easement, or other valid existing real property interest. Further, the rule at section 251.50(c) would be revised to clarify that, in emergency situations, a special use authorization should be sought at the earliest opportunity following the emergency to ensure that appropriate measures are carried out to protect National Forest System lands after the emergency situation no longer exists.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 605-4533
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RIN: 0596-AB74

451. • SALE AND DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM TIMBER; TIMBER EXPORT AND SUBSTITUTION RESTRICTIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 620

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223; 36 CFR 261

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed rule for timber export and substitution restrictions would implement the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990, as amended. The proposed rule defines the certain terms necessary to facilitate uniform compliance; prohibits transfer of unprocessed private timber for export by a person who possesses or acquires unprocessed Federal timber; prohibits export of such unprocessed private timber by a third or successive party; prescribes procedures for reporting the acquisition and disposition of NFS and private timber requiring domestic processing, including transfers; prescribes procedures for identifying unprocessed National Forest Service and private timber requiring domestic processing; and establishes procedures for assessing civil and criminal penalties and applying administrative remedies for violations of the Act, its implementing regulations, and contracts subject to the Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
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Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us

RIN: 0596-AB75

452. • APPEAL OF REGIONAL GUIDES AND NATIONAL FOREST LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS; MULTI-AGENCY DECISIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 551; 16 USC 472

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 217

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Forest Service is increasingly cooperating with other Federal land managing agencies to address resource management issues that cross Federal administrative boundaries. An example of such an effort is the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project (ICBEMP). Through joint planning and decisionmaking, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) can provide more consistent direction for the management of common resources in the Columbia Basin and for other joint management projects. Because the Forest Service and the BLM each have their own separate and differing processes for administrative review of planning decisions (appeals in the Forest Service and protests in the BLM) and because it is important to maintain consistency in the decisions made and how they are implemented across Federal jurisdictions, a single process for administrative review of the joint ICBEMP decision is needed. This proposed rule permits the Forest Service to waive its appeal process in favor of an administrative review process provided by another agency when a Forest Service decision is embodied in a multi-agency planning document. The intended effects are to provide the public the benefit of one administrative review process and to simplify what would otherwise be a complicated and burdensome review process.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
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Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us

RIN: 0596-AB76

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Forest Service (FS)

Final Rule Stage

453. INDIAN ALLOTMENTS ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472; 16 USC 551; 16 USC 1603; 43 USC 1740; 25 USC 337

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 254

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule sets forth Forest Service procedures and role in the regulation of Indian allotments on National Forest System land. The Indian Allotment Act, as amended, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make allotments of National Forest System lands to Indians for homesteading and agricultural and grazing purposes. The Forest Service has relied upon USDI rules and procedures at 43 CFR 2533 to govern its involvement in Indian allotment cases. Litigation and a decision by the Interior Board of Land Appeals require the Forest Service to set forth its own regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/22/87	52 FR 23473
NPRM Comment Period End	07/22/87	
Final Action	01/00/00	
Final Action Effective	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
 Phone: 703 605-4533
 Fax: 703 605-5111
 Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us

RIN: 0596-AA52

454. NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 17 in Part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0596-AB20

455. DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER; CANCELLATION OF TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing

Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472a; 16 USC 551; 16 USC 618

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 223.30; 36 CFR 223.40; 36 CFR 223.116

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Current regulations governing cancellation of National Forest timber sale contracts do not adequately protect the Government's financial interests in the event the Forest Service is forced to cancel contracts due to events beyond its control arising from compliance with environmental statutes. This rulemaking would remove an unworkable compensation-of-damages formula and establish a termination-for-environmental-protection clause in timber sale contracts, a standard in most Federal procurement contracts.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/30/96	61 FR 68690
NPRM Comment Period End	02/13/97	
Final Action	11/00/99	
Final Action Effective	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
 Phone: 703 605-4533
 Fax: 703 605-5111
 Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us

RIN: 0596-AB21

456. STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY ASSISTANCE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 2101 et seq

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 230

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This final rule would incorporate streamlined procedural

changes in response to public comments on the interim rule published December 4, 1991. The interim rule established the interim procedures for administration of the Stewardship Incentive program. The program is intended to encourage private landowners, through cost-share assistance, to manage their forest lands for economic, environmental, and social benefits. Only two alternatives were considered in detail: (1) To implement the program in accordance with 16 USC 2101, et seq., and (2) not to implement the program, in which case there would be no accelerated program for multiple resource management on nonindustrial private forest lands. The overall effects of the program over time will be environmentally beneficial by enhancing wetlands, wildlife habitat, forest health, forest productivity, and recreation. The program will help meet future demand for commodity and noncommodity forest resources. There are no potential negative impacts anticipated for the program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/04/91	56 FR 63581
Interim Final Rule Public Comment Period End	01/21/92	
Final Action	01/00/00	
Final Action Effective	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
 Phone: 703 605-4533
 Fax: 703 605-5111
 Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us

RIN: 0596-AB32

457. PREFERENCE FOR VISITOR SERVICE; ALASKA NATIONAL FOREST CONSERVATION SYSTEM UNITS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 3197

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 251

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Forest Service is issuing regulations to define and establish procedures for administering the statutory rights and preferences

USDA—FS

Final Rule Stage

established by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 for historical operators, Native Corporations, and local residents to conduct revenue producing visitor services on certain National Forest System Lands in Alaska. The regulations are necessary to comply with section 1307 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act which requires the Secretary of Agriculture to give preference to persons he determines by rule are local residents. The regulations, which have been developed in close consultation with the other Federal land managing agencies in Alaska, will apply only to Conservation System Units administered by the Forest Service. As applied to these regulations, administered Conservation System Units are Forest Service national monuments units of the National Wild and Scenic River Systems, National Trails System, and the National Wilderness Preservation System in Alaska.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/25/97	62 FR 20140
NPRM Comment Period End	06/24/97	
Final Action	11/00/99	
Final Action Effective	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 605-4533
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Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us

RIN: 0596-AB57

458. ADMINISTRATIVE, COOPERATIVE FUNDS AGREEMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 498; 16 USC 472; 16 USC 551

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 211

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Forest Service published a proposed revision to 36 CFR part 211 in the Federal Register on May 18, 1998 (63 FR 27245), to implement recent amendments to the Act of June 30, 1914 (16 USC 498 et seq.). The

amendments to the Act (1) expand the Forest Service's authority to use contributions on the entire National Forest System for cooperative work, (2) add the word "management" to the list of activities for which contributions for cooperative work may be accepted, (3) allow reimbursable payments to the agency by cooperators, (4) provide specific authority to accomplish cooperative work using Forest Service funds prior to reimbursement by the cooperator pursuant to a written agreement, and (5) adequately protect the Government's interests.

The agency received six responses to the proposed rule: Three from national conservation organizations, one from a State fish and wildlife agency, one from a utility company, and one from a Member of Congress.

The Department has considered all comments and is proceeding to publish the final rule.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/18/98	63 FR 27245
NPRM Comment Period End	07/17/98	
Final Action	11/00/99	
Final Action Effective	11/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
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RIN: 0596-AB63

459. NOTICE, COMMENT, AND APPEAL PROCEDURES FOR NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 102-381, sec 322

CFR Citation: 36 CFR 215

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: A recent lawsuit brought by a Forest Service employee challenging this regulation led to a reassessment of the employee appeal limitation 36 CFR 215.11(c). The Department agreed to repeal the employee prohibition provision to allow the agency time to

consider the issues related to employees filing appeals. After additional consideration of relevant factors, the Department may decide to publish a new proposed rule to address the matter of appeals by employees. If so, public comment would be requested at the time.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	01/28/98	63 FR 4187
Final Action	02/00/00	
Final Action Effective	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
Phone: 703 605-4533
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Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us

RIN: 0596-AB69

460. SMALL BUSINESS TIMBER SALE SET-ASIDE RECOMPUTATION BASIS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 16 USC 472; 16 USC 618; 16 USC 620

CFR Citation: Not Yet Determined

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Forest Service is revising policy and procedures that will make timber sale set-aside recomputations, required by industry changes, easier to implement and more responsive to the actual conditions in the market area. Two changes were considered in the proposed policy. The first would revise the formula used to calculate the timber sale set-aside program recomputation by removing timber harvest data and instead use only timber sale purchased volume data. The second would modify the timing of a structural change implementation from 3 years to 1.5 years. Structural change recalculations are needed when a business's characteristics change, such as the size of the operation. This will simplify the process and give appropriate weight to small and big businesses. The agency received approximately 30 comments to the proposed policy and is considering them in the final policy.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/28/99	64 FR 28969

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Final Rule Stage

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	07/28/99	
Final Action	11/00/99	
Final Action Effective	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** Federal**Agency Contact:** Marian P. Connolly, Regulatory Officer, Department of

Agriculture, Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090
 Phone: 703 605-4533
 Fax: 703 605-5111
 Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us
RIN: 0596-AB72

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Forest Service (FS)

Completed Actions

461. DISPOSAL OF NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER: TIMBER SALE CONTRACT REVISIONS
Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.**CFR Citation:** Not Yet Determined**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	09/15/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** Federal

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly
 Phone: 703 605-4533
 Fax: 703 605-5111
 Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us

RIN: 0596-AB52
462. APPEAL OF DECISIONS RELATING TO OCCUPANCY AND USE OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS; MEDIATION OF GRAZING PERMIT DISPUTES
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 36 CFR 251**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/14/99	64 FR 37843
Final Action Effective	08/14/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Marian P. Connolly
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 Email: mconnoll/wo@fs.fed.us

RIN: 0596-AB59

BILLING CODE 3410-11-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Office of the Secretary (AgSEC)

Proposed Rule Stage

463. DESIGNATION OF RURAL EMPOWERMENT ZONES AND ENTERPRISE COMMUNITIES
Priority: Other Significant**Legal Authority:** PL 105-277, sec 766**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 25**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule sets forth the policies and procedures for designating twenty additional rural enterprise communities. This rule also sets forth

the policies and procedures for a newly authorized grant program for Round II rural empowerment zones and Round II's enterprise communities.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Victor Vasquez, Deputy Administrator, Office of Community Development, Department of Agriculture, Office of the Secretary, Room 701, Reporters Building, Washington, DC 20024-3203
 Phone: 202 619-7980

RIN: 0503-AA20
Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Office of the Secretary (AgSEC)

Long-Term Actions

464. NONDISCRIMINATION IN USDA-CONDUCTED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 15**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/23/96	61 FR 17851
NPRM Comment Period End	05/23/96	
Second NPRM	11/10/98	63 FR 62962

Action	Date	FR Cite
Second NPRM Comment Period End	12/10/98	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Rosalind D. Gray
 Phone: 202 720-5212

RIN: 0503-AA15
465. UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
Priority: Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 3016**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/17/98	63 FR 7734

USDA—AgSEC

Long-Term Actions

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	06/18/98	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Gerald Miske
Phone: 202 720-1553

RIN: 0503-AA16

**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Office of the Secretary (AgSEC)**

Completed Actions

466. UNIFORM PROCEDURES FOR THE ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF EXCESS PERSONAL PROPERTY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 3200; 7 CFR 3201; 7 CFR 3202; 7 CFR 3203; 7 CFR 3204;

7 CFR 3205; 7 CFR 3206; 7 CFR 3208; 7 CFR 3209; 7 CFR 3210; 7 CFR 3211

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/27/98	63 FR 57233

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Linda W. Oliphant
Phone: 202 720-3141

RIN: 0503-AA19

BILLING CODE 3410-90-F

**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)**

Proposed Rule Stage

467. RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN AND GRANT PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 940c

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1703 subpart B; 7 CFR 4280 subpart A

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action is part of a reinvention laboratory initiative of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Business-Cooperative Service. The regulations will be written in a "Plain Language" style. The proposed regulation will be simpler and improve the ease of use by the public and program beneficiaries. The regulation will be written in a question and answer format from the perspective of questions from the applicant under this program. The regulations will simplify the application format, review and selection process, and recipient's recordkeeping requirements. It will also add a section on the appeal of adverse decisions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Public Compliance Cost: Initial Cost: \$25,000; Yearly Recurring Cost: \$25,000; Base Year for Dollar Estimates: 1995

Agency Contact: Mark Wyatt, Team Leader, Specialty Lenders Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service, Room 6865, South Building, STOP 3225, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1400

RIN: 0570-AA19

468. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1980 subpart A; 7 CFR 1980 subpart E; 7 CFR 1942 subpart A; 7 CFR 1951 subpart E; 7 CFR 4274 subpart I; 7 CFR 4287 subpart H

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agency currently utilizes RD Instructions 1980-A and E, 1942-A, 1951-E to make and service new and existing direct B&I loans. These regulations contain very limited direction in direct B&I loan making. The Agency is writing new regulations to replace the instructions for direct loan making and servicing. This

program will complement the Agency's existing guaranteed (B&I) loan program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Richard Bonnet, Senior Loan Specialist, Processing Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service, Room 6864/Stop 3221, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1804
Email: rbonnet@rurdev.usda.gov

RIN: 0570-AA22

469. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM—MISCELLANEOUS CHANGES

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 4287 subpart B; 7 CFR 4279 subpart A; 7 CFR 4279 subpart B

Legal Deadline: None

USDA—RBS

Proposed Rule Stage

Abstract: Revisions are proposed in the following areas: Exclusion of financing agriculture production, limiting debt refinancing, definition of rural and rural area, criteria for reducing percent of guarantee, revising loan priority criteria, eligibility issues when an applicant is delinquent on Federal debt, title IX provisions, additional administrative guidance, tightening eligibility criteria for non-bank lenders, removing the need for a Regional Attorney review for transfers and assumptions of existing loans, limiting debt refinancing, limiting packaging fees, adjusting loan priorities, additional application requirements for certain applicants, and various other minor editorial changes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Richard Bonnet, Senior Loan Specialist, Processing Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service, Room 6864/Stop 3221, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1804
Email: rbonnet@rurdev.usda.gov

RIN: 0570-AA23

470. AFFIRMATIVE FAIR HOUSING MARKETING PLAN

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1703 subpart B; 7 CFR 1942 subpart G; 7 CFR 4284

subpart D; 7 CFR 4287 subpart B; 7 CFR 4279 subpart B; 7 CFR 4274 subpart D

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will incorporate the requirement for housing-related projects (such as apartment buildings, nursing homes, group homes, and assisted living type facilities) to develop an Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan (plan) when receiving funding from the Intermediary Relending Program, Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program, Rural Business Opportunity Grant Program, Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs, and the Business and Industry Direct and Guaranteed Loan Program. The plan will describe strategies to attract applications from all groups in a housing market area and efforts to reach those persons in the market area who traditionally would not be expected to apply for housing. The Rural Housing Service Multifamily Housing Program regulations currently include this borrower requirement. We estimate this action will impact a total of 100 housing-related projects not previously required to complete a plan.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: David Lewis, Loan Specialist Servicing Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service, Room 6858/Stop 3224, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 690-0797

RIN: 0570-AA24

471. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM—FINANCING COOPERATIVE STOCK

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 42 USC 1480; 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 4279 subpart B; 7 CFR 4279 subpart A

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agency proposes to revise the Business and Industry Program regulations to incorporate additional guidance and eliminate or reduce certain requirements when financing cooperative stock. It also purposes to develop a streamlined application form when financing working capital, which includes cooperative stock.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	07/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Required: Yes

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Richard Bonnet, Senior Loan Specialist, Processing Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service, Room 6864/Stop 3221, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-1804
Email: rbonnet@rurdev.usda.gov

RIN: 0570-AA26

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)

Final Rule Stage

472. RURAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY GRANTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989; 7 USC 1926

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 4284; 7 CFR 1951

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service proposes to add a new regulation implementing a grant

program to fund local technical assistance and planning activities in rural areas for the purpose of improving economic conditions. Grants will be available to public bodies, nonprofit organizations, Indian tribes, and

USDA—RBS

Final Rule Stage

cooperatives. This action is necessary to comply with Pub. L. 104-127. Grants may be used for technical assistance and training for small businesses, identifying and analyzing business opportunities in rural areas establishing business support centers, conducting local or multi-county economic development planning, coordination of economic development activities, and leadership development training of local government officials.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/03/98	63 FR 5474
NPRM Comment Period End	03/20/98	
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Wayne Stansbery, Loan Specialist, Specialty Lenders Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service, Room 6867/Stop 3225, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-6819
Email: wstansbe@rus.usda.gov
RIN: 0570-AA05

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)

473. RURAL VENTURE CAPITAL DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 4279 subpart A; 7 CFR 4279 subpart F; 7 CFR 4287 subpart G

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	04/09/97	62 FR 17107
ANPRM Comment Period End	05/09/97	
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Brenda Griffin
Phone: 202 720-6802
Email: bgriffin@rurdev.usda.gov
RIN: 0570-AA25

474. RURAL AND RURAL AREA UNDER THE RURAL COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 4279; 7 CFR 1980; 7 CFR 1942; 7 CFR 4284

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Local

Agency Contact: Bill Hagy
Phone: 202 720-7287

RIN: 0570-AA27

475. • RURAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE GRANT PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301; 7 U.S.C. 1932; 7 U.S.C. 1989; 16 U.S.C. 1005

CFR Citation: 7 CFR Part 1942; 7 CFR Part 4284

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agency proposes to rewrite and renumber 7 CFR 1942, subpart G, "Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program to 7 CFR part 4284, subpart B, to incorporate public law changes and clarify administrative regulatory procedures and guidelines in order to improve program administration.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Amy Cavanaugh, Loan Specialist, Department of Agriculture, Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service, Room 6867/Stop 3225, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-1521
Phone: 202 690-2516
Email: acavanau@rurdev.usda.gov

RIN: 0570-AA28

BILLING CODE 3410-07-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Rural Utilities Service (RUS)**Proposed Rule Stage****476. PRESERVATION OF RECORDS
ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS FOR
RUS ELECTRIC BORROWERS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant.
Major status under 5 USC 801 is
undetermined.

Reinventing Government: This
rulemaking is part of the Reinventing
Government effort. It will revise text in
the CFR to reduce burden or
duplication, or streamline
requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1767 D

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Utilities Service
(RUS) proposes to amend its regulation
by adding a new subpart on
Preservation of Records. Current RUS
policy on this subject is set forth in
RUS Bulletin 180-2, Manual for
Preservation of Borrower's Records. In
addition to codifying these policies and
procedures, revisions are being
proposed to the existing policy that
will establish the proper record media
forms for record retention. Once the
final is effective, RUS Bulletin 180-2
will be rescinded.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/00	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe Jr.,
Director, Program Development & Reg
Analysis, Department of Agriculture,
Rural Electrification Administration,
Room 4034, South Building, 1400
Independence Avenue SW,
Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA92

**477. WATER AND WASTE LOAN AND
GRANT SERVICING**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This
rulemaking is part of the Reinventing
Government effort. It will revise text in
the CFR to reduce burden or
duplication, or streamline
requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 1989

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1782

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed action
combines the various servicing
regulations of the water and waste
program into one. The new regulation
will codify and clarify RUS policy
relating to servicing water and waste
loans and grants.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/00	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/00	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe Jr.,
Director, Program Development & Reg
Analysis, Department of Agriculture,
Rural Electrification Administration,
Room 4034, South Building, 1400
Independence Avenue SW,
Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB23

**478. TELECOMMUNICATIONS
STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS
FOR MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT, AND
CONSTRUCTION**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This
rulemaking is part of the Reinventing
Government effort. It will revise text in
the CFR to reduce burden or
duplication, or streamline
requirements.

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq; 7
USC 1921 et seq

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1755

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Rural Utilities Service
(RUS) proposes to amend 7 CFR 1755
to include requirements presently
contained in RUS Bul. 345-3. This rule
would establish and codify provisions
for the inclusion and removal for
products from I.P. 344-2. This rule also
proposes to integrate the existing
section on field trials in the procedures
for product acceptance and inclusion in
this codification, as well as clarifying
the reorganizing the field trials section.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe Jr.,
Director, Program Development & Reg
Analysis, Department of Agriculture,
Rural Electrification Administration,
Room 4034, South Building, 1400
Independence Avenue SW,
Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB40

479. SEISMIC SAFETY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 7 USC 901 et seq; 42
USC 7701 et seq; EO 12699

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1792 C

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This revision is being made
to update and simplify the
requirements of RUS. This revised rule
will provide RUS borrowers, grant
recipients, RTB borrowers, and the
public with updated rules for
compliance with seismic safety
requirements for new building
construction using RUS or RTB loan,
grant or guaranteed funds or funds
provided through lien accommodations
or subordinations approved by RUS or
RTB.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/00	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe Jr.,
Director, Program Development & Reg
Analysis, Department of Agriculture,
Rural Electrification Administration,
Room 4034, South Building, 1400
Independence Avenue SW,
Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB47

USDA—RUS

Proposed Rule Stage

**480. REVISION OF RUS
TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM
AND RTB LOAN DOCUMENTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 941 et seq; 7 USC 6941 et seq; 7 USC 1921 et seq**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1610; 7 CFR 1744**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** As part of the Rural Utilities Service's (RUS) continuing effort to streamline and simplify regulations and to reduce burdens on borrowers, RUS and RTB intend to revise and reform their loan contract and mortgage documents.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe Jr., Director, Program Development & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Electrification Administration, Room 4034, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AB48**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Rural Utilities Service (RUS)**

Final Rule Stage

481. LOAD FORECASTS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 901 to 950(b); PL 99-591**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1710 E**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is proposing to amend its regulations to revise requirements for borrowers load forecasts (previously referred to as power requirements studies) and load forecast work plans. The proposed changes would reduce the level of detail required in load forecasts filed by smaller power supply borrowers and their members and by distribution borrowers unaffiliated with a large power supply borrower.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/07/99	64 FR 36609

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	09/07/99	
Final Action	02/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe Jr., Director, Program Development & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Electrification Administration, Room 4034, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AB05**482. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT
CONTRACT (INCLUDING
INSTALLATION)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 901 et seq, 1921 et seq, 6941 et seq**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1755.397**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** RUS is proposing to amend its regulation on RUS Telecommunications Standards and Specifications for Materials, Equipment, and Construction. This action codifies RUS Form 397, Special Equipment Contract (including installation).**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/20/98	63 FR 8582
NPRM Comment Period End	04/21/98	
SNPRM	07/06/98	63 FR 36377
SNPRM Comment Period End	09/04/98	
Final Action	01/00/00	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe Jr., Director, Program Development & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Electrification Administration, Room 4034, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AB35**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Rural Utilities Service (RUS)**

Long-Term Actions

**483. ELECTRIC STANDARDS AND
SPECIFICATIONS FOR MATERIALS
AND CONSTRUCTION****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1728**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AA67

USDA—RUS

Long-Term Actions

484. POST-LOAN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMON TO INSURED AND GUARANTEED ELECTRIC LOANS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1717, subparts A-F; 7 CFR 1717, subparts J-K**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AA71**485. LOAN DOCUMENTS—BANK PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1620**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AA76**486. DEPRECIATION RATES AND PROCEDURES****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1767 C**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AA80**487. USE OF GENERAL FUNDS INVESTMENTS, LOAN GUARANTEES, AND RETIREMENT OF CAPITAL CREDITS BY ELECTRIC BORROWERS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1717 O**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AB01**488. RUS APPROVAL OF SALE OF CAPITAL ASSETS BY ELECTRIC BORROWERS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1717 P**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AB02**489. COMMUNITY FACILITY LOANS—TIMBER-DEPENDENT COMMUNITIES****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1942 subpart A**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes**Small Entities Affected:** Governmental Jurisdictions**Government Levels Affected:** Local**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AB11**490. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1775 subpart B**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes**Small Entities Affected:** Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations**Government Levels Affected:** Local**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AB14**491. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING GRANTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1775 subpart A**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes**Small Entities Affected:** Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations**Government Levels Affected:** Local**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AB15**492. RUS APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND EXTENSIONS TO ELECTRIC PLANTS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1717.603**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Yes**Small Entities Affected:** Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120**RIN:** 0572-AB38**493. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AND SPECIFICATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1755**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/16/98	63 FR 49504
ANPRM Comment Period End	12/15/98	
NPRM	To Be	Determined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

USDA—RUS

Long-Term Actions

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550Fax: 202 720-4120
RIN: 0572-AB41Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

Completed Actions

494. CIVIL RIGHTS POLICIES
APPLICABLE TO RUS BORROWERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1790

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	11/10/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AA75

495. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM
CONSTRUCTION POLICIES AND
PROCEDURES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1753

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/06/99	64 FR 16602
Final Action Effective	05/06/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB34

496. AMENDING THE RURAL
UTILITIES SERVICE WATER AND
WASTE PROGRAM REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1780

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/04/99	64 FR 29945
Final Action Effective	06/04/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB44

497. DISTANCE LEARNING AND
TELEMEDICINE LOAN AND GRANT
PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1703 D

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Direct Final Rule	03/25/99	64 FR 14355
Final Rule Effective	05/10/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB45

498. CONSTRUCTION WORK PLANS
AND RELATED STUDIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 7 CFR 1710 F

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Direct Final Rule	06/22/99	64 FR 33176
Final Rule Effective	08/06/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB46

499. • CENTRAL OFFICE EQUIPMENT
CONTRACT (NOT INCLUDING
INSTALLATION)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 901 et seq.; 1921 et seq.; 7941 et seq.**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 1755**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** RUS is amending its regulations on Telecommunications Standards and Specifications for Materials, Equipment, and Construction to revise RUS Form 545, Central Office Equipment Construction (Not Including Installation). RUS is revising this contract form in order to incorporate contractual and technological changes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/11/98	63 FR 68406
NPRM Comment Period End	02/09/99	
Final Action	10/05/99	64 FR 53886
Final Action Effective	11/04/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: F. Lamont Heppe Jr., Director, Program Development & Reg Analysis, Department of Agriculture, Rural Electrification Administration, Room 4034, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-1522
Phone: 202 720-9550
Fax: 202 720-4120

RIN: 0572-AB50

BILLING CODE 3410-15-F

Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**Proposed Rule Stage****500. • CONSERVATION OF PRIVATE GRAZING LAND****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 2005b**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 610**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Private grazing land constitutes nearly one-half of the non-federal land of the United States and is basic to environmental, social, and economic stability of rural areas. In fact, grazing land constitutes the single largest watershed cover type in the United States and contributes

significantly to the quality and quantity of water for all of the many uses in the watershed. Congress recognized the importance of grazing lands in Subtitle H, Section 386 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 by authorizing the Secretary to provide a coordinated technical, educational and related assistance program to conserve and enhance private grazing lands.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Peggy Willis, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service, P.O. Box 2890, Cotton Annex Mezz 1, Washington, DC 20013

Phone: 202 720-0450

Email: peggy.willis@usda.gov

RIN: 0578-AA29**Department of Agriculture (USDA)**
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**Final Rule Stage****501. HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLAND CONSERVATION****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 3801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 12**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory, July 3, 1996.

Abstract: Soil erosion and its results, including damage to water quality and air quality, loss of productive capacity of the land, and offsite damages, is caused in part by inadequate or inappropriate systems. Loss of wetlands due to conversion for agricultural production destroys wildlife habitat, reduces the lands ability to slow runoff, and affects water quality and quantity. The 1985 Food Security Act required producers who farm highly erodible land to do so by using a conservation system that controls erosion at an acceptable amount and requires producers to not convert and produce crops on the areas, in order to remain eligible for most USDA program benefits. This act gave producers a major incentive to conserve wetlands and to install conservation practices on the country's most fragile lands. The 1996 Farm Bill refines these requirements.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	09/06/96	61 FR 47019
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Peggy Willis, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service, P.O. Box 2890, Cotton Annex Mezz 1, Washington, DC 20013

Phone: 202 720-0450

Email: peggy.willis@usda.gov

RIN: 0578-AA17**502. FORESTRY INCENTIVES PROGRAM****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 2103**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 635**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) supports good forest management practices on privately owned, non-industrial forest lands nationwide. FIP is designed to benefit the environment while meeting future demands for wood products. The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, as amended by Public Law 95-313 is the source of authority for FIP. FIP was reauthorized for fiscal year 2002 by Public Law 104-127. The interim rule sets forth FIP policies and procedures.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Peggy Willis, Regulatory Liaison, Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service, P.O. Box 2890, Cotton Annex Mezz 1, Washington, DC 20013

Phone: 202 720-0450

Email: peggy.willis@usda.gov

RIN: 0578-AA26**503. WETLAND CATEGORICAL MINIMAL EFFECTS EXEMPTIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 3801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 12**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The 1985 Farm Bill, as amended, gives producers a major incentive to conserve wetlands by tying eligibility for most USDA program benefits to conservation of wetlands. However, producers can convert wetlands based on available exemptions, including a minimal effect exemption. A minimal effect applies if the action, individually and cumulatively, will have minimal effect on the functional hydrological and biological value of the wetlands in the area. A categorical minimal effect is one that, when carried out, will always have a minimal effect on the hydrologic and biological functions of wetlands in the area. These activities will be identified on a regional basis.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	11/00/99	

USDA—NRCS

Final Rule Stage

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Peggy Willis,
Regulatory Liaison, Department of
Agriculture, National Resources
Conservation Service, P.O. Box 2890,Cotton Annex Mezz 1, Washington, DC
20013
Phone: 202 720-0450
Email: peggy.willis@usda.gov
RIN: 0578-AA27**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**

Completed Actions

**504. 7 CFR PART 610 TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 610**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/03/99	64 FR 41999

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Peggy Willis
Phone: 202 720-0450
Email: peggy.willis@usda.gov**RIN:** 0578-AA22
BILLING CODE 3410-16-F**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM)**

Proposed Rule Stage

**505. AGRICULTURE ACQUISITION
REGULATION (AGAR); CONTRACTOR
EMPLOYMENT OF MIGRANT AND
SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL
WORKERS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 301; 40 USC
486(c)**CFR Citation:** 48 CFR 422; 48 CFR 452**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** USDA proposes to add
clauses to the AGAR to inform offerors
and contractors for forestry servicecontracts about immigration and labor
laws applicable to employment of
migrant and seasonal agricultural
workers.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/00	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Procurement:** This is a procurement-
related action for which there is no
statutory requirement. There is no
paperwork burden associated with this
action.**Agency Contact:** Joseph J. Daragan,
Procurement Analyst, Department of
Agriculture, Office of Operations, Room
1566, South Building, 14th and
Independence Avenue SW,
Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5729
Email: joseph.daragan@usda.gov**RIN:** 0599-AA05**Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM)**

Final Rule Stage

**506. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRIORITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE
GUIDELINE FOR DONATION OF
EXCESS RESEARCH EQUIPMENT****Priority:** Info./Admin./Other**Legal Authority:** PL 102-45; EO 12999**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 2812**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** The Office of Procurement
and Property Management of the
Department of Agriculture proposed to
amend its procedures for the donation
of excess research equipment for
technical and scientific education
research activities to educational
institutions and nonprofit organizations
under section 11(1) of the Stevenson-
Wylder Technology Act (15 U.S.C 3710(I)). This amendment would expand the
list of entities eligible to receive such
equipment, establish a priority list for
eligible entities seeking transfer of such
equipment, and clarify administrative
rules regarding equipment transfer.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/29/99	64 FR 41049
NPRM Comment Period End	08/30/99	
Final Action	12/00/99	

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** State,
Local, Tribal**Agency Contact:** Kathleen N. Fay,
Property Utilization Specialist,Department of Agriculture, Office of
Operations, Room 1520, 1400
Independence Avenue SW,
Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-9779
Email: kathy.fay@usda.gov**RIN:** 0599-AA06**507. • AGRICULTURAL ACQUISITION
REGULATIONS: REWRITE;
CONTRACTING BY NEGOTIATION****Priority:** Info./Admin./Other**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 301; 40 USC
486(c)**CFR Citation:** 48 CFR 401.106; 48 CFR
415 (Revision); 48 CFR 437.204 (New);
48 CFR 452.215

USDA—OPPM

Final Rule Stage

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) is being revised and reorganized at part 415, Contracting by Negotiation. The amended part 415 will reflect changes in the content and structure of Federal Acquisition part 15, Contracting by Negotiation.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is no

paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Joseph J. Daragan, Procurement Analyst, Department of Agriculture, Office of Operations, Room 1566, South Building, 14th and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250
Phone: 202 720-5729
Email: joseph.daragan@usda.gov

RIN: 0599-AA07

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Long-Term Actions

Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM)

508. NEW RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 7 CFR 3018**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	02/26/90	55 FR 6736
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

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RIN: 0599-AA03

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Completed Actions

Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM)

509. AGRICULTURE ACQUISITION REGULATION (AGAR); SIMPLIFIED ACQUISITION PROCEDURES**Priority:** Info./Admin./Other**CFR Citation:** 48 CFR 413; 48 CFR 453**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/23/99	64 FR 45894
Final Action Effective	10/22/99	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Joseph J. Daragan

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RIN: 0599-AA04**BILLING CODE** 3410-13-F

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